

# Happy New Year

FIRST  
SECTION

Thursday,  
December 27,  
2007

CRAWFORD COUNTY

# AVALANCHE

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## Band students spread Christmas spirit



Members of the Grayling High School Band made their way around Grayling, performing Christmas carols for their special audiences. Above, Andy Curriston, Chris Wells, Johnny Lovely and Aaron Nemeth played a selection of Christmas tunes for Grayling resident Dora'Lee Dann. For more, see "Band students..." on Page 2A.

Photo by Dan Sanderson

## Road commissioners explain funding issues

by Dan Sanderson  
Staff Writer

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners plan to lobby state officials and educate the public about funding issues the Crawford County Road Commission is facing.

Road Commission members, and Managing Director Don Babcock, attended the Crawford County Board of Commissioners meeting last week, to explain issues the road commission is facing regarding winter snow plowing.

The Road Commission, for the second year in a row, is attempting to cut overtime expenses and limit the amount of snow plowing it does on nights and weekends.

That means that local and primary roads under the county road commission's jurisdiction will not be plowed at times. State roads, however, such as I-75, M-72, M-93, the I-75 Business Loop and US-127 will be maintained because the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) pays the Road Commission for work it does on those roadways.

Babcock said the road commission's state revenues, from the Michigan Transportation Fund, money collected from gasoline taxes, weight taxes and license registration fees, has been decreasing since 2003. That has resulted in the road commission not replacing employees that have retired, cutting back on

equipment purchases and overtime expenses.

The road commission will typically dispatch its plow trucks if there is a heavy snowfall on the nights and weekends, but the budget situation has made it so that officials are struggling to keep up with that policy.

"This last weekend, it seemed like people were getting around quite well, so we never touched a thing until Monday," Babcock said.

Road commission members are planning for a four-percent decrease from the transportation fund for next year. There is also speculation that state lawmakers may remove \$13 million from the transportation fund to help pay for other state expenses.

"They're just taking money from us left and right from the transportation fund," said Ken Riehle, the chairman of the Crawford County Road Commission.

Babcock said the road commission typically spends \$750,000 for its winter maintenance budget. Last year, the road commission spent \$108,000 through the end of December to plow the roads. The road commission has already incurred \$308,000 in winter expenses heading into the end of the year, due to the early snowfall.

It costs the road commission \$2,000 an hour in overtime costs to put a full crew out to plow the

Continued on Page 3A  
See "ROAD..."

## Penny drive motivates students for MEAP test

by Dan Sanderson  
Staff Writer

Loose change collected around the house helped motivate Grayling Elementary School students to give their all on the state MEAP test.

The Crawford AuSable School's Board of Education, at its regular meeting last week, recognized Grayling Elementary School staff and students for a penny drive conducted to raise money to purchase incentives to do well on the state tests.

Over a two-day period, the students brought in over \$1,000 in pennies and other coins. The classrooms competed against each other to see who could raise the most money, and coins of larger denominations, put in a competing classroom's collection, counted against the total amount of pennies raised by

their rivals.

The penny drive was initiated by Grayling Elementary School third grade teachers Andrea Berkshire and Laurie Canfield.

Berkshire's husband, Doug Berkshire, is a teacher at Gaylord Middle School, where they do a similar penny drive to inspire kids to do their best on the state tests.

The students received certificates for every day they showed up for school on time, when the tests were taken in September. In addition, teachers gave the students extra certificates when they saw them giving extra effort and checking their answers on the test.

"The kids were very excited about taking the test and they were pumped," Canfield said. "They were really doing their best to do their best work."

Third and fourth grade stu-

dents were tested on their math and language arts skills. The fifth grade students were tested for their math, language arts and science knowledge.

"The incentives seemed to help the whole morale of the building, as far as the students trying their best on the test," said Angie Camp, the Grayling Elementary principal.

Over 70 prizes were purchased with the penny drive funds from the Grayling Kmart, ranging from televisions and digital cameras to books. In addition, Kmart donated two bicycles and six backpacks.

The Grayling 7-Eleven also gave certificates for Slurpees to the fifth graders who were forced to retake a portion of the MEAP tests, due to a testing snafu that occurred at a school downstate.

The prizes were given out at a

school assembly.

Berkshire said she was pleased that the penny drive was a successful endeavor.

"It was a lot of work, but the kids definitely benefited from it," she said.

Camp said she appreciated the staff giving the extra motivation to the students.

"They really did go above and beyond with the project and it wouldn't have happened if they hadn't taken this on," Camp said.

Crawford AuSable Schools Superintendent Joe Powers said school officials are pleased to have students and staff giving their all to do their best on the state mandated tests.

"Our schools are graded on how well the students do on their tests, so our schools are doing well if our students are doing well," Powers said.

## Trails fund returned to Chamber

by Dan Sanderson  
Staff Writer

Funds, used to help maintain the community's non-motorized pathway system, were returned to the Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce last week.

Money, donated by private donors to help support and maintain the trail system, have been being collected since the trail system was created 10 years ago.

In July, the Chamber opted to transfer the funds to the Crawford County Board, due to budget issues the Chamber was facing. Federal tax officials had threatened to seize the funds, which were kept in a checking account, due to financial issues the chamber was facing.

"They were just kind of hanging out there, so we needed to get that money out of there, because we didn't want to put it in jeopardy," said Kim Millikin, the interim executive director for

the Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce.

The Chamber board voted to lay off former director, Tim Zigilia, in August and cut back on programs.

Now that Chamber officials have worked its way out of its financial crisis, Chamber and non-motorized officials asked for the money to be returned to their jurisdiction.

"It was just a temporary fix," Millikin said.

The Crawford County Board of Commissioners unanimously voted to return the money last week.

There is about \$12,000 in the fund.

"It's just easier for the trails committee to access those funds through the Chamber," Millikin said.

The trails fund will now be kept in a trust account.

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### Crawford County Avalanche

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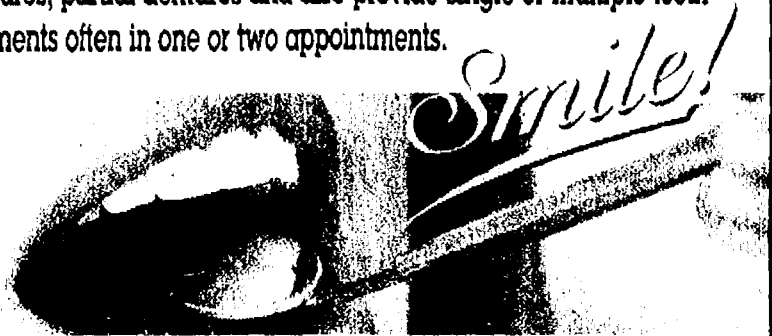
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# Band students spread Christmas spirit

by Dan Sanderson  
Staff Writer

The Grayling High School Band's version of the "Fab Five" toured the community last week, providing musical Christmas cards to businesses and people at their homes.

Members of the band made their way around Grayling, performing Christmas carols for their special audiences.

The band Christmas cards have been done for several years, allowing people to send a personal thank you to friends, loved ones and business associates.

The Christmas cards provide an outreach for the bands, plus the students are raising money for a trip the band will take to Chicago in April.

The students deliver a personal Christmas card from the band from the person that ordered the performance, then play a handful of Christmas carols, always wrapping up with "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."

Seniors, Andy Currison and Chris Wells, and junior band members, Aaron Nemeth and Johnny Lovely, performed at a half dozen businesses and residents' homes last week.

Lovely, who has been doing the Christmas cards for two years in a row, said he enjoys improvising on Christmas carols, and playing a variety of holiday tunes for the intimate audiences as a way to give back to the community.

"You get to put a smile on people's faces, and it's a good thing to do at Christmas time," Lovely said.

The band performed for the residents at Mercy Manor, who are not able to get out for holiday concerts at the schools.

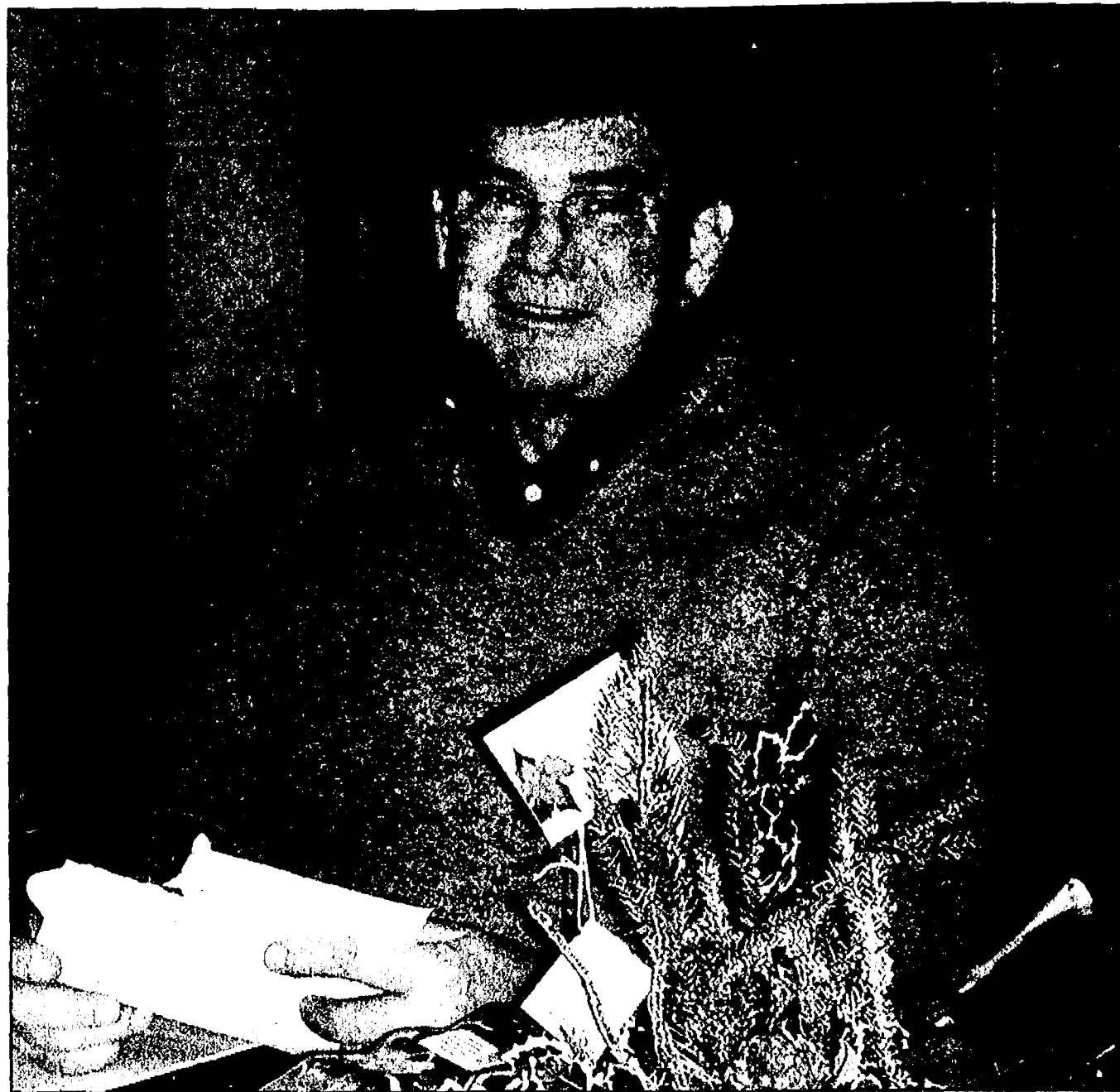
They also paid a visit to Dora Lee Dann, a Grayling woman who has baby-sat several children in the community over the last 30 years.

"It's nice to know they look to get out to the older people to give them a little music," Dann said.

The performance at Dann's home was arranged by Judy Mesack, a Grayling Middle School teacher. Dann baby-sat Mesack's children, Leslie and Greg, several years ago.

"It's really nice to have something that's personalized," Mesack said. "There are lots of people that you can't buy things for, because they either have it all or don't need anything. This is making a memory, and I like that."

The band performed at Grayling real estate companies Century-21 River Country, Re/Max of Grayling and



Photos by Dan Sanderson

The band performed at Grayling real estate companies Century-21 River Country, Re/Max of Grayling and Coldwell Banker-Cornell Realty. Those visits were arranged by Andy Currison's parents, Shirley and Larry Currison, who own North Michigan Appraisal in Gaylord. Above, Randy Thompson, the owner of Century-21 River Country, was thrilled to have the students perform at his business.

Coldwell Banker-Cornell Realty. Those visits were arranged by Andy Currison's parents, Shirley and Larry Currison, who own North Michigan Appraisal in Gaylord.

"It's just kind of a Christmas gift for them, since we do business together, plus it helps the band," said Shirley Currison, who is president of the Grayling Band Boosters. "It's better than sending them a box of nuts or something like that."

The band performed at Re/Max of Grayling while they were holding a Christmas party with the staff from the Crawford County Title Company.

Charlene Scheer, a broker and owner at Re/Max of Grayling, said the performance added a nice touch to the party. Her daughter, Peri Scheer, a fifth grader at Grayling Elementary School who takes piano, guitar and singing lessons, was also on hand to enjoy the performance.

"It brought the Christmas spirit right into Re/Max," Charlene Scheer said. "It's always a total surprise when they show up, and it's just a real nice gesture."

Randy Thompson, the owner of Century-21 River Country, was thrilled to have the students perform at his business.



Charlene Scheer, a broker and owner at Re/Max of Grayling, and her daughter Peri Scheer, watch the band perform.

"I thought it was absolutely stunning," Thompson said. "It's always nice to see talented,

young people sharing their talent with the community."

The students performed for the staff and customers at Glen's Market last week, as people were doing their shopping for the holidays.

Bob Becks, who had children perform the Christmas cards when they were in the band, said he appreciates the students visiting seniors and getting out in the community.

"I thought that was pretty slick," Becks said. "I think it's good for the band kids to do that."

Jenni Usrey, a cashier at Glen's Market, said the band's performance provided a nice touch as people prepared for Christmas.

"It was really neat to have them here for the holidays," Usrey said. "It brightens the mood up and gets people in the spirit."

Matt Bishop, the director for the Grayling High School and Middle School band programs, said he gets rave reviews from people who receive the Christmas cards months after the performances.

"It's a very neat experience for the kids and the community, and there are not many bands that do that," Bishop said.

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Students, in Marc Winton's Grayling Elementary School fourth grade class, sent Christmas cards to soldiers being treated at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., in November.

## Students send cards to troops at Walter Reed

by Dan Sanderson  
Staff Writer

About two dozen Grayling Elementary School students sent Christmas cards to troops who are being treated for injuries sustained fighting the war on terrorism.

Students, in Marc Winton's Grayling Elementary School fourth grade class, sent Christmas cards to soldiers being treated at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., in November. The Walter Reed Army Medical Center is the main hospital where soldiers wounded in combat are treated for their injuries stateside.

The holiday project was initiated as part of the students' lessons

about Veteran's Day.

Both Winton and Jody Lobsinger, whose daughter Jocelyn Hartley is in Winton's class, knew soldiers who were being treated at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Lobsinger, who works at the American Legion Post #106, obtained the address for the hospital from the Legion. The soldier that she knows, who was injured by an improvised explosive device in Iraq, came into the Legion the last couple of summers while training at Camp Grayling.

The 25 students in Winton's class drew pictures for the troops on the cards and wrote notes of support.

"I thought it would be nice to send something as small as a Christmas card to these soldiers, and I hope it brightens their spirits up as much as the favorite presents that these kids receive," Lobsinger said.

Winton, who served 12 years in the Michigan National Guard's 1439th Engineering Detachment based out of Camp Grayling, said he hoped that students learned about the sacrifices soldiers are making and hardships that their schoolmates go through when their parents are deployed.

"I thought it was a good project for the kids to do at Christmas time and a good pick-me-up for the soldiers," said Winton, who was deployed for Operation

Desert Storm.

The American Legion Post #106 paid for the postage to mail the cards to the troops.

Ally Robson, the daughter of Maj. James Robson, who is the director of facilities engineering for Camp Grayling, said she appreciated sending the cards to the troops.

"It made me feel good that I was making someone feel better, because my dad is in the Army," Ally said.

Nicholas Petrie also said he was helping someone and I liked communicating with the soldiers," Petrie said.

## Road commissioners explain funding issues

Continued from Page 1A

roads, plus costs of \$400 to \$450 for a load of salt and fuel.

Road commission members were asked to attend the County Board meeting since commissioners were being questioned why the roads weren't being plowed.

In addition, Crawford County Sheriff Kirk Wakefield sent a letter to commissioners explaining the costs the sheriff's department was incurring due to several recent accidents that have occurred on the roadways. Wakefield said that unfavorable road conditions has caused his department to incur overtime costs, and places hardships on local fire departments and ambulance crews.

"It's a major drain, all the way around, on taxpayer dollars," Wakefield said. "It's a vicious circle."

Road commission members

### Trails fund returned to Chamber

Continued from Page 1A

Wayne Koppa, chairman of the non-motorized pathway committee, said money from the fund has been used to purchase snow fences, to prevent snowmobiles from traveling on paved trails, as well as to make other improvements.

"We're always looking to make improvements and enhance the trail system," Koppa said.

said county commissioners could urge state lawmakers to support legislation to increase gasoline taxes, weight taxes and license registration fees.

"The more we squawk, the more, hopefully, we will get their attention," said Dave Stephenson, chairman of the Crawford County Board of Commissioners.

There is also talk about state officials allowing counties to put a proposal on the ballot that

could allow a local gasoline tax to be levied, which would garner more funds for road maintenance and construction, if approved by voters.

"We could certainly use any additional funding we could get from any source," Babcock said.

In an effort to help its economic situation, the road commission board is also considering another attempt at the five-year, one-mill proposal that was defeated in the 2006 November election by a

vote of 2,910 to 2,734. The purpose of the millage proposal was to generate money for primary road improvements.

Road commission officials said the millage money would help free up some of the road commission's state transportation money currently being used on road projects for maintenance.

"I'm not sure one mill is going to be enough, but we have to be careful how we ask for money from the taxpayers," Riehle said.

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# OPINIONS



## ALMANACK

by Richard Milliman

### Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays, especially for kids

(Author's Note: Much of the material in this column has appeared in the Almanack at Christmas time in previous years. The points are still valid.)

DESPITE RECURRING attempts to chip away at its true foundation, Christmas time in our country — and throughout much of the world, for that matter — has a solid religious underpinning based upon Christian beliefs surrounding the birth of the Baby Jesus.

There's nothing wrong with that. Without a belief in God, Christmas really has little purpose and diminished meaning.

Some folks still are upset about using the more generic "Happy Holidays" instead of the more traditional "Merry Christmas" as the preferred greeting this time of year.

Some seasonal greeting cards specifically omit any reference to Christmas and many stores

advertise holiday sales instead of Christmas specials. Apparently the generality of seasonal greetings is supposed to avoid offending anyone, except maybe ardent believers in Christ.

As another step in what I believe is the right direction, again this year the tall decorated lighted fir tree in front of the state capitol building in Lansing is designated as Michigan's Christmas Tree. For several years it was labeled the state Holiday Tree.

My personal reaction to the tussle between Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays supports inclusiveness. So what? Why get all excited? Negative attitudes distort the true Christmas spirit anyway.

As well as a religious observance, Christmas is an official public holiday, so decreed by governments. So is New Year's Day. They both come this time

of year. Why not be inclusive?

Should we wish merriment and happiness only for Christmas Day? Should we hope only Christians have a joyous and blessed season? Why not be inclusive?

Personally I wish folks a merry Christmas, but also wish them happy holidays, too. My wish is for good things far beyond Christmas itself, and extending past the New Year.

THE HOLIDAY SEASON covers several days. It's a season for family gatherings ... to greet friends and loved ones ... to give and receive gifts ... to sing songs and Christmas carols, many with both religious theme and history. These are all good things.

But without the religious foundation of Christmas, the whole idea doesn't mean much. It's simply a time of year, a few days off work, and an excuse for

partying.

To be friendly and happy is good. To help others, by donating money to feed and care for the homeless and the lonely, and giving toys and clothing to needy families, performing individual and group good deeds, all of which are widespread at this time of year ... these are all good.

Jewish faithful also celebrate a miracle at this time of year. Hanukkah is a significant religious feast in the Jewish faith. Muslim faithful observe an important religious observance this time of year, too. These are all good. But they are not Christmas.

CHRISTMAS IS especially for children. Can children grasp the idea of God and the Baby Jesus? Of course they can. If you doubt it, just talk to some children.

"God is a good friend to have."

That is one of the delightful comments from kids about God, collected a few years ago in a book under that precise title. Here are some other comments from kids included in that book, perhaps simple, but yet insightful:

"God wants peace and quiet, just like my father."

"God is always listening to everything. I bet He wishes He could turn it off sometimes."

"God is everywhere like the air. We breathe Him in and out. He don't mind."

"God is who tells you when you have to die and it does not matter how old you are either. You have to do it."

"God is someone you can hear inside and feel all over, but you can't see Him or touch Him. But that isn't so important."

"God is a spirit, not like a

ghost or scary or anything, but like a big person who isn't really there."

"God is whatever you think He is, but not a girl."

"We really don't know where God is, but you have to believe in Him before you can find Him. It's the only way."

AT CHRISTMAS time, we search for meaning in our lives.

One child quoted above from the book *God Is a Good Friend to Have* is very much on target:

You have to believe in Him before you can find Him. It's the only way.

From the Almanack, we sincerely wish all of you a blessed and joyous Christmas .... and happy holidays, too!

Richard Milliman is a veteran newspaperman, and a contributing columnist to several Michigan newspapers.

## WASHINGTON NOTES

By Carl Levin, U.S. Senator (D-Michigan)

### Taking on unfair credit card practices

Janet Hard is a registered nurse, married with two children, living in the Saginaw area. She has had a Discover credit card for years, has always paid her bills on time, never exceeded the credit limit, and always paid at least the minimum amount due. Over the last twelve months, Ms. Hard spent less than \$100 on purchases and made steady monthly payments of \$200 for a total of \$2,400 in payments on her card. Shockingly, over this same period of time, Ms. Hard's \$2,400 in payments reduced her debt by only \$350.

How could \$2,400 result in only a \$350 reduction of Ms. Hard's credit card debt? In 2006, out of the blue, Discover increased the interest rate on her card from an already high 18% up to 24%. Discover then retroactively applied this sky-high 24% rate to her existing credit card debt of \$8,300, increasing her finance charges and minimum payments. Even though Ms. Hard had not missed a payment to Discover and made all her payments on time for 48 months, she was still penalized.

The Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, which I chair, held a hearing this month on credit card companies that hike the interest rates of hard working Americans, like Ms. Hard, who play by the rules.

It is the second in a series of hearings I am holding on unfair credit card practices. In March, we looked at a number of industry practices that seem rigged to keep families mired in debt.

These practices include charging interest on payments made on time, imposing excessive and duplicative fees, and applying consumer payments first to the debt with lowest interest charges instead of to the debt with the highest interest charges.

Our hearing this week was the result of an investigation into unfair interest rate increases that uncovered some surprising facts. We learned that a consumer's credit score may drop for unspecified reasons, resulting in interest rate increases. The major credit card issuers often increase interest rates even though a cardholder has maintained a perfect payment history on their credit card.

We learned that the vast majority of the decisions to increase credit card interest rates are not made by credit card company employees, but by automated computer programs. These programs use complex mathematical formulas based on information about consumer credit scores, making them difficult to understand. And we learned that credit scores can be lowered if a consumer gets close to but does not exceed their credit limit or if the consumer opens a new credit card just to obtain a discount on a purchase.

We also saw plenty of evidence of arbitrary interest rates. One consumer, for example, had a Chase credit card that, in the last 12 months, had four different rates: 15%, 17%, 27% and — after my subcommittee asked about the account — 6%. These

interest rates are all over the map.

Our investigation has already led some credit card companies to change their practices to be fairer and more consumer-friendly. Citi and Chase, for example, both recently decided to discontinue the practice of imposing interest rate increases on cardholders who meet the credit card issuer's obligations.

I hope others will follow suit, but we need more than voluntary action; we need to change regulations or law to prohibit unfair practices. That is why I have introduced the Stop Unfair Practices in Credit Cards Act, which would put an end to a variety of unfair credit card practices that make it difficult for working families to climb out of debt. The bill has been endorsed by the leading consumer groups and cosponsored by eight other senators.

Folks who meet their credit card obligations — pay their bills on time, stay under their credit limits and pay at least the minimum amount due — should not be hit with massive interest rate increases out of the blue. Credit card companies are too often squeezing, and even gouging, working families that play by the rules. It is time for Congress to say enough is enough.

Carl Levin is the senior U.S. Senator from Michigan.

## VIEWPOINT

By Kirk Wakefield, Crawford County Sheriff

### Safe winter driving tips

With the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) citing traffic accidents as the leading cause of death during winter storms, the Crawford County Sheriff's Office is reminding travelers that despite adverse conditions, many accidents can be avoided.

"What a lot of people need to understand is that a high percentage of traffic fatalities are a result of poor decision-making," says Sheriff Wakefield. "In bad weather, it may come down to something as simple as postponing travel for a day. If you do have to brave the elements, then watch your speed. Don't try to drive too far if you're tired and make sure your vehicle is equipped with the necessary equipment for the conditions. Most importantly, always wear safety belts and never get behind the wheel after having too much to drink."

In 2006, almost 19,000

Michigan accidents were alcohol related. Despite statistics showing that seat belt usage in the U.S. has increased over the years, with about 4 out of every 5 travelers now buckling up, there is still room for improvement. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration estimates that if all drivers and passengers wore seat belts, approximately 8,000 lives a year would be spared nationwide.

With the early arrival of winter weather, Sheriff Wakefield suggests the following safety tips for safe travel.

Check your tires, engine oil, antifreeze and brakes before embarking on a trip.

Buckle up, and make sure your passengers do too.

Reduce speed in snow, sleet and rain.

Allow yourself plenty of braking space in wet weather.

Lightly pump your brakes on wet roads when slowing the vehicle.

Never venture down unplowed roads.

Avoid distractions such as talking on your cell phone or eating.

Keep headlights on and use low beams in fog.

Listen to the radio for information on local road and weather conditions.

Pull off the road if you're tired or if outside conditions worsen.

If you break down, don't venture more than 100 yards from your vehicle to seek help.

Things to include in your vehicle during winter driving are a map of the area where you're traveling, water, a flashlight (with extra batteries), a candle (for heat and light), a snowbrush and an ice-scraper, a package of cat litter (for tire traction), a spare tire, a small shovel, hats, weather proof gloves and boots, a heavy blanket, matches and flares and a cell phone (for emergency use only).

## VIEWPOINT

By Susan Metcalfe, professional forester, owner and operator of Metcalfe Forestry LLC & Timber Tax Services

### Natural disasters and our income tax laws

At approximately 8 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 18, a tornado

touched down north of Luzerne and proceeded in a north-easterly direction in Oscoda County.

Numerous homes and buildings were damaged or destroyed, along with major devastation to the trees in its path. Other tornadoes and damaging winds were reported throughout Michigan.

In the Luzerne and Mio area, the tornado cut a swath over 12 miles long and up to 1/2 mile wide in places, affecting over 3,840 acres of forestland in that area alone. This could easily mean the loss of over 76,800 cords of forest products, unless salvage efforts can utilize some of these damaged trees. This is just one of several areas where forested land was affected by the tornadoes and damaging winds.

The threat of a forest fire may dramatically increase when all of the dead trees dry out next year.

We do not have hurricanes to worry about in our north-country, but we do have tornados, other severe wind storms, ice storms

and forest fires which cause casualty losses to our trees.

Homes and buildings are normally covered by insurance — not wild-land trees. In the absence of insurance, the only way to recover some of your loss is to first make a reasonable attempt at salvaging the timber. This includes selling at less than market value if necessary.

Timber that cannot be salvaged falls under the casualty loss provisions of the federal income tax code.

In order to receive the maximum tax savings or casualty loss allowable, readers are encouraged to consult with a timber tax consultant before reporting their timber transactions.

Susan Metcalfe is a professional forester who owns and operates Metcalfe Forestry LLC & Timber Tax Services. For more information, call 989-348-3596, or e-mail at metcalfetimbertax@hotmail.com or www.metcalfeforestry.com.

**CRAWFORD COUNTY AVALANCHE**

PO Box 490 Grayling MI 49738 Phone 989-348-3596 Fax 989-348-3597

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Check us out on the Internet at [www.crawfordcountyavalanche.com](http://www.crawfordcountyavalanche.com)

## What Do You Think?

The Crawford County Avalanche welcomes its readers to comment on news, features, and opinion articles — including letters to the editor and Richard Milliman's weekly Almanack column — on our new Internet site at [www.crawfordcountyavalanche.com](http://www.crawfordcountyavalanche.com).

To express an opinion on a news, feature, or op-ed article, click on a story and scroll down to the "What do you think?" header (it's highlighted with a red color bar). Fill in your name and type your comments in the area provided, and click on the "Post Comment" icon when finished. Existing comments are listed between the "What do you think?" header and the area to post new comments.

All comments are subject to approval by Crawford County Avalanche management prior to publication on our Internet site. Comments are limited to 200 words.

Excerpts from recent comments

posted on our Internet site:

"I guarantee you this is not the panacea it's made out to be. If it's too good to be true it usually is. This is not the right project for the area. If you want a tourist attraction, how about a committee to bring the Fred Bear Museum to Grayling where it belongs. Let's build on the rich history and resources we have. Aircraft carriers belong in the ocean not on land." — Steve (on the proposed theme park)

"Concerning the next time there is a millage proposal how about remembering the fact that the condition of our roads should have addressed 10 years ago when there was enough money around to do something about it. These people have got to learn how to budget money just like you and I do, and I for one am sick and tired of them sticking their hands in my pocket to fix their mistakes." — Don (on proposed road millage)

<http://www.crawfordcountyavalanche.com>



# BRIEFS

## Blood drives to be held

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive on Wednesday, Jan. 2, at the American Legion Hall, Grayling, from 12 p.m. - 5:45 p.m. A blood drive will be held on Friday, Jan. 4, from 12 p.m. - 5:45 p.m., at St. Mary's Family Center, Grayling.

## Community calendar available online

The Crawford County Avalanche has a community calendar on their new web site. To view area happenings, or to be considered for publication of your event, go to [crawfordcountyavalanche.com](http://crawfordcountyavalanche.com), click on community and go to the community calendar.

## Holiday season is busiest time of year on trails

Safe riding is particularly important during the holidays due to an increase in trail users and holiday celebrations with alcoholic beverages.

Youthful operating regulations are important during the holidays as well due to the prevalence of family gatherings that include recreational use of snowmobiles.

"The holiday season brings a combination of unique factors. Family celebrations put many more people on the trails, many of whom are not frequent riders. Alcoholic beverages are often a part of holiday celebrating and that's fine, we just remind everyone that drinking and snowmobiling do not mix," said the Michigan Snowmobile Association (MSA) Executive Director, Bill Manson.

Adherence to Michigan state law regulating youthful operation is a very important aspect of safety.

"Minors should always be monitored, but especially during the holidays," Manson added.

Minors under the age of 12 may not, under any circumstances, cross a roadway on a snowmobile. They may not ride a snowmobile without the direct

supervision of an adult, even while riding on property owned by a parent or guardian.

Minors ages 12-17 may operate a snowmobile if they have a valid snowmobile safety certificate in their immediate possession or are under direct supervision of a person 21 years of age or older.

These youthful operators must carry a safety certificate and have it in their possession.

In addition to personal responsibility, groomed and marked trails are also essential to safe riding.

Michigan has over 6,400 miles of trails, on public and private lands, that are designated for snowmobile use from Dec. 1 to March 31.

Trail grooming is done entirely by clubs and business associations, most of whom are volunteers.

The MSA consistently promotes a strict peer-enforced "zero tolerance" for alcohol and riding policy.

The snowmobile industry generates more than \$1 billion per year for Michigan's economy and supports over 7,000 direct jobs.

## Mercy Family Care offers quick care clinic

Mercy Family Care - Prudenville announces a new Quick Care Clinic for minor injuries and certain acute illnesses.

Clinic Manager Ann McGuire said Physician Assistant Kristina Lopez will provide a walk-in clinic for problems such as: sore throats, coughs and colds, seasonal allergies, the flu, skin rashes, female urinary tract infections, sprains and strains, as well as cuts and puncture wounds.

"We will not be able to provide emergency care for life-threatening illnesses or injuries, or long-term management for chronic health problems," she said. "If someone is experiencing chest pain, showing signs of a stroke, or uncontrolled bleeding, they should go directly to

the nearest emergency room."

Quick Care is offered Mondays and Wednesdays from 7:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. No appointment is needed. People may also call (989) 366-2900 after 8 a.m. on any day of the week and schedule a same-day appointment during regular business hours.

"Quick Care offers easy access for patients with acute problems that need to be seen in a timely manner before work or school," McGuire said. "It provides parents with a quick way to find out if the child should go to school."

Mercy Family Care - Prudenville is located inside Mercy Community Health Center, 2585 West Houghton Lake Drive in Prudenville.

## New AuSable Marathon book now available

Have you ever watched the crazy running start of the AuSable River Canoe Marathon or watched the paddlers race through the night from Grayling to Oscoda? Some people wonder just how good they really are.

A new book, "The Tradition Endures: 60 Years of the AuSable River Canoe Marathon Featuring the Races from 1998 to 2007," tries to answer the question of how AuSable Marathon racers stack up against the best canoe racers in North America. In addition, the book examines the extreme training these paddlers do to prepare for the grueling event held the last full weekend in July.

"A lot of AuSable Marathon race fans don't realize the extreme training some of these paddlers do," said Jon Thompson, who wrote the book with John B. Cook, Nancy Lemmen and Pam Williams.

"For example, one April, the father and son team of Bob and Mike Bradford paddled upstream on the AuSable all the way from Lake Huron in Oscoda to Grayling, 112 miles. Then they portaged with their canoe and camping equipment over to the Manistee River and paddled all the way to Lake Michigan, about 151 miles. Along the way, they encountered ice on some of the ponds behind dams and had to portage a total of 31 miles," said Thompson.

Ranking the Marathon paddlers with the best in North America and extreme training stories are only two of the features in the 104-page book. Results from every race from 1998 to 2007 are included, along with updated and new records maintained by Cook, the Marathon historian.

"It was time for a new book," said Lemmen, who, with Thompson, wrote the first book about the Marathon, "Experience the Tradition: The First 50 Years of the AuSable River Canoe Marathon", which sold out. "The last decade has seen the string of victories by Serge Corbin and Jeff Kolka, a new generation of young paddlers who are starting to dominate and older paddlers like Al Widing Sr., Frank Smutek and Bob Bradford who continue to amaze fans," said Lemmen.

Williams, the photography editor for the new book, collected more than 100 new photos of the Marathon, including unique shots of the wild LeMans-style start taken by Dr. Arthur Kerle from a cherry-picker high above Peninsular Avenue.

Listed in the section covering the last 10 Marathons are current

or former Crawford County residents, including three champions, Jeff Kolka, Jim Harwood and Matt Rimer, along with 80 other paddlers: John Sullivan, Joe Seifert, Jason Hall, Doug Moggo, Jim Laurent, Mike Hartman, Colin Hunter, David Sabin, Erich Podjaske, Brenda Carlson, Steve Seager, John Lucey, Brad Wilson, Chris Kucharek, Rob Lawe, Robert Smith, Matthew Smith, Eric Swander, Connie Swander, Tim Sheldon, David Teddy, Bob Rouse, Jason Lozon, Ted Kolka, Carrie (Trudgeon) Montgomery, Don Brooks, Jason Snell, Todd Messerschmidt, Rusty Argue, Steve Anderson, Sean Casey, Matt Ashton, Mo Harwood, Tom Trudgeon, Jim Corlew, Steve Corlew, Scott VanDeVen, Robert Stockton, Lee Barnett, Nicholas D'Amour, Pete Mead, Chad Swander, Alfred Borchers, Kevin Jansen, Mandy Trudgeon, Craig Jacobs, John Junttila, Jon Thompson, Tony Thomson, Peter Belcher, Marlana Hopewell, Phil Trudgeon, Rod Halstead, Ryan Halstead, Robert Reed, Donald Stacks, Brian Borchers, Josh Sheldon, Josh Taylor, Ray Trudgeon, Cheryl Lucey, Ron Trojanek, Dave Piehl, Mitch McMillan, Todd VanDeVen, Nick Walton, Bob Mitchell, Spencer Derenzy, Jason Hatfield, Jimmy Spaulding, Brian Jacobs, Bill Grigsby, Ellen Thompson, Alex Donaldson, Dave Lawe, Ben Lucey, Brandon Jacobs, Cameron McClain, Jason Thompson and Josh Moggo.

Some area residents featured in the records section include Jack Kolka, John Baker, Jay Stephan Jr., Brett Stockton, Butch Stockton, Bill Torongo, Dave Shepherd, Mark Kolka, Bill Kellogg and Minard Harwood.

The Tradition Endures is a fundraiser for the AuSable River International Canoe Marathon (ARICM), which is operated entirely by volunteers. All income after printing costs goes to ARICM. The cost of a soft-cover book is \$20 plus tax, and a hardcover book is \$30 plus tax. Books may be purchased from the ARICM office in the Grayling Mini-Mall on Wednesday, Dec. 26, from 6 to 9 p.m. Books may also be ordered online at [ausablecanoe-marathon.org](http://ausablecanoe-marathon.org). Mailing costs are extra.

One thousand copies of the new books were printed. Close to 200 books were already ordered before they were delivered to the Marathon office.

**THE OLE BARN**  
**New Years Eve Party**  
**Dec. 31st starting at 9 pm**  
**Champagne Toast at Midnight**  
**DJ • hors d'oeuvres**  
**No Cover Charge**  
**Band-Friday & Saturday Dec. 28 & 29**  
**"ROSETTA STONE"**  
**6811 M-72 West, Grayling**  
**989-344-1760 • OPEN 2PM DAILY**

**Crawford County Transportation Authority**  
**Weekday Scheduled Services to:**

FREDERIC & MAPLE FOREST		LOVELLS	
Leaves Grayling	5:45 a.m.	Leaves Grayling	9:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	6:45 a.m.	Leaves Grayling	11:30 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	9:00 a.m.	Leaves Grayling	1:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	11:30 a.m.	Leaves Grayling	3:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	1:15 p.m.	Leaves Grayling	5:00 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	3:30 p.m.		
Leaves Grayling	5:00 p.m.		

M-72 EAST		BEAVER CREEK & ROSCOMMON	
Leaves Grayling	6:00 a.m.	Leaves Grayling	7:30 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	7:00 a.m.	Leaves Grayling	11:00 a.m.
Leaves Grayling	9:00 a.m.	Leaves Grayling	1:00 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	11:30 a.m.	Leaves Grayling	2:15 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	1:30 p.m.	Leaves Grayling	4:30 p.m.
Leaves Grayling	3:30 p.m.		
Leaves Grayling	5:00 p.m.		

*\*The 1:00 p.m. south run does not go all the way into Roscommon.*

**M-72 WEST**  
 Demand response service calls worked in between other runs

To request weekday demand response services call dispatch @ 348-5409

**RURAL HEALTH INITIATIVE TRIPS**  
 Individuals requiring transportation for specialty medical services not locally available may qualify for RHI medical transportation services.  
 Information regarding RHI medical transportation services can be obtained by contacting Julie Dean @ 348-8215

**SPECIAL EVENT TRIPS\*:**  
**Scheduled For January 2008**  
**Trip #1**  
**Tuesday, January 8, 2008**  
**Turtle Creek Casino - Williamsburg**  
**Departing at 8:30 am.**  
**Approximate arrival - Grayling 4:00 pm.**  
 Trip organized by the Crawford County Commission on Aging  
 Contact Andrea @ 348-7123 to reserve a seat  
**\*Special event trips require: (1) a minimum of twenty-two passengers; and (2) that passengers less than 18 years of age be accompanied by a responsible adult.**  
 To reserve seats or request information concerning special event trips call Julie @ 348-8215

**COMMUNITY EVENT SERVICES:**  
 Service schedules may be modified to meet increased demand during special community events. Such as the Milltown Festival

To request information concerning expanded services call Richard @ 348-4101

## Medicare shopping season ends soon

Each year, from Nov. 15 through Dec. 31, Medicare beneficiaries have an opportunity to enroll in a prescription drug plan for the new calendar year (2008). While individuals may stay with their current plan, the Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP) recommends reviewing the options before making a decision.

MMAP executive director, Jo Murphy said "each year, insurance companies have an opportunity to change their benefits. It is important for people with Medicare to consider the plan formulary as well as the price of their monthly premium. People need to make sure the prescriptions they take will be covered and also check to see if there are any restrictions."

Other considerations include the pharmacy someone likes to use, whether they want a mail order option, and if they will be able to get their prescriptions if they travel.

Many Medicare shoppers look at the monthly premium, other

shoppers will pay more for their premium to avoid an annual deductible and some people want a plan that provides coverage in the gap/donut hole.

Low-income individuals may qualify for "extra help" paying for premiums and co-pays by contacting the Social Security Administration.

To review the new 2008 Medicare prescription drug plans, Medicare beneficiaries or a family member may go to [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) and use the Plan Finder to compare plan options. Or they may also call 1-800-Medicare (1-800-633-4227) for assistance over the telephone.

If people with Medicare would like local assistance they may call MMAP at 1-800-803-7174. This number will connect them with a counselor in their area who can assist them with the research to make an informed decision.

In Michigan there are 55 stand-alone drug plans for 2008 and 191 Medicare Health Plans which may not be available statewide and may or may not

include prescription coverage.

Medicare beneficiaries should not wait any longer to review their drug coverage. Now is the time to complete enrollment; coverage begins on Jan. 1, 2008.

MMAP is the state-wide program which provides free health benefits counseling to Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries, their families and caregivers. With unbiased information provided by staff and volunteers, Michigan residents can make informed health care decisions. Topics covered include: Medicare, Medicaid, medigap and long term care insurance, managed care and prescription drug coverage. MMAP saved Michigan beneficiaries over \$7,000,000 in out-of-pocket costs last year. There are approximately 450 volunteers who serve as MMAP counselors.

MMAP is funded by a grant from the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging through funding received by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

**Crawford Station Restaurant**  
**New Year's Day Buffet**  
**Jan. 1st, 2008, 12 Noon - 6pm**

**Carved Baked Old Fashioned Smoked Ham**  
**Eggs and Omelets Cooked to Order**  
**Make Your Own Waffle Station**  
 (With Assorted Toppings)  
**Turkey ala King**

**Sirloin Beef Tips & Noodles**  
**Alaskan Pollack with Hollandaise Sauce**  
**Mashed Potatoes & Cheese**  
**Green Beans**

**Soup & Gourmet Salad Bar**  
**Fresh Fruit**  
**Raw Veggies & Dip**  
**Cheese & Cracker Tray**  
**Variety of Desserts**

**\$13.99 - Adults**  
**\$12.99 - Seniors**  
**\$1.00 x Age Under 12**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!**

**2650 I-75 Business Loop • Grayling, MI 49735**  
**989-348-7611 or 800-292-9056**



# The Bible Speaks

## Law's Dominance Ended

Chapter 7 of Romans deals with the believer's relationship to the law in sanctification. Verses 1-4 remind us that the dominance of law in ended in the life of the believer. "I know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth? 2For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband. 3So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man. 4Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God." (Romans 7:1-4).

The first point is the dominance of law over all human beings. This is illustrated by the law of marriage which is always ended by death. (Of the two ways to break a marriage by death and divorce, only

God's perfect will for marriage "until death do us part" is listed in this illustration. Those who wish to know what the original readers who knew the law understood about divorce under law may read Deuteronomy 24:1-4 and the fullest commentary by the law giver in Matthew 5:31,32; and 19:3-9.)

The second point is death to the law in verse 2. "2For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband." The wife in this illustration is freed from the law of marriage by the death of another person, her husband. This is a beautiful picture of how we too are freed from the law by the death of another, our Lord Jesus Christ. He fulfilled the righteous demands of the law by His perfect life; He fulfilled the righteous and just requirements of the broken law by His vicarious death or death of substitution on the cross in our place for our sins. Because of our union with Jesus Christ our old man is also crucified with Him in Romans 6:6: "6Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin." Peter

said it well in 1 Pet 2:24: "24Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed."

The third point is deliverance from the law in verse 3: "3So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress; but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man." The point of the illustration is clear, we cannot be bound to both law and grace at the same time. If we are freed by God's grace, we are not bound by God's law. As Paul said in Galatians 2:21: "21I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain." "14For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace." (Romans 6:14). Law and grace don't mix. (Rom 11:6). "4For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth." (Romans 10:4). Pastor "B"

"The Bible Speaks is a paid advertisement and does not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Crawford County Avalanche."

## Church Directory

sponsored by the following community minded individuals and businesses

**GRAYLING GLASS COMPANY**  
Ken & Carol Tasker  
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348-8945 • Grayling

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the Rest is Up to You!"  
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"McDonald's and You"  
Breakfast served until  
11 a.m. on Sundays  
I-75 Bus. Loop Grayling,  
Ph. 348-2269

## OBITUARIES

**Martin R. McCluskey**  
April 23, 1933- Dec. 19, 2007  
Martin Richard "Mac" McCluskey, 74, of Grayling, passed away at Grayling Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Grayling, on December 19, 2007.

He was born in Detroit, on April 23, 1933, to Hugh and Elizabeth McCluskey.

He served in the U.S. Air Force. He worked for many years as a car hauler and was a member of the Teamsters Local #299.

He married Frances Kozik on November 7, 1953, in Hamtramck.

After retiring, he moved to Grayling from Royal Oak.

He enjoyed hunting and was an avid supporter of the Detroit Lions. He was a member of the Grayling Eagles Lodge Aeries #3465. He especially enjoyed spending time with his family.

He is survived by his loving wife, Frances; children: Richard (Rebecca) McCluskey of Warren, Christine Oswald of Grayling, Daniel (Billie Jo) McCluskey of Abingdon, Va., Pamela Swazey of Ferndale; grandchildren: Michael Oswald, Sean, Cody and Christian McCluskey, Matthew, Sarah and Melissa Swazey; great-grandchild, Skyler; brother, John McCluskey of Mountain Home, Ark.; and sister, Kay Ayres of Traverse City.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Hugh McCluskey; and sister, Betty Kampman.

Cremation has taken place and no services are planned.

Memorials may be made to the American Diabetes Association. Arrangements made by Sorenson-Lockwood Funeral Home.

### Woodrow W. Holden

Woodrow "Woody" Holden, of Grayling and Vero Beach, Fla., passed away.

He married the late Margery Holden.

He was a metallurgist, specializing in gray iron and nodular iron. He was active in metal casting during his career and held several chair-positions with the American Foundrymen's Society. He received the National Award of Scientific Merit in 1977 for significant technical contributions to the iron casting industry.

He was a life member of the Grayling Masonic Lodge #356 F & AM.

He was a 32nd degree Mason and member of the Elf Khurafek Shrine Temple in Saginaw. He started his Masonic life by being raised as a Master Mason in Northville, Lodge #186, on January 26, 1948.

He retired in 1981 from Picklands, Mather & Co. in Cleveland. He was a manager of Foundry Engineering Service and Technical Development.

He is survived by "Jamie" (Russ) Carson; grandchildren, Scott (Kim) Eungard; great-grandchildren, Carson Eungard and Adam Hargett.

He was preceded in death by son, George Holden.

A funeral service was held on December 22, at Coats Funeral Home, Waterford.

Interment was at All Saints Cemetery, Waterford.

Memorials may be made to Shrine Hospitals.

Condolences may be sent to [www.coatsfuneralhome.com](http://www.coatsfuneralhome.com). Arrangements made by Coats Funeral Home, Waterford.

### Jack D. Best

July 17, 1925 - Dec. 18, 2007  
Jack D. Best, 82, of Grayling, passed away at his home on December 18, 2007.

He was born in Jackson, on July 17, 1925, to Luster F. and M. Gail (Davidson) Best.

He graduated from Jackson High School and attended Jackson Community College.

After serving in the U.S. Army, he joined the Michigan State Police. He served at several posts before retiring. He then worked as an investigator, for the Michigan Secretary of State, for several years.

He was a member of the Crawford County Sportsman's Club and a longtime area Constable.

He is survived by his daughter, Christine (David) Lee of Navarre, Fla.; grandchildren, Briana and India Best of Navarre, Fla.; cousins: J. David (Marilyn) Stein of Bay City, Morris (Marilyn) Stein of Phoenix, Ariz., Audrey (Ralph) Hinderleider of Alma; and longtime good friend, Dick Kammer of Grayling.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced at a later date.

Condolences may be sent to [www.sorensonlockwood.com](http://www.sorensonlockwood.com). Arrangements made by Sorenson-Lockwood Funeral

### Kathryn V. Bollinger

Jan. 27, 1912 - Dec. 20, 2007  
Kathryn Virginia Bollinger, 95, formerly of Troy, passed away at Grand Traverse Pavilions on December 20, 2007.

She was very loving and will be greatly missed.

She is survived by two daughters, Shirley (Steve) Welke of Grayling, Barbara Bollinger of Mass.; five grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Judge Wilbur Bollinger; and sister, Shirley Allen.

## In Memory of

In loving memory of David McClain.

This holiday season, we celebrate the life of our father, husband and friend. We are reminded that those we hold dear never truly leave us. Dave lives on in the kindness he showed, the laughter he shared and the love he brought into our lives.

So today, and everyday, we look up to the night sky and think of Dave - the stars shining down on us, serving as openings to Heaven. His love pours through and reassures us that he is free from pain and is happy.

With loving hearts,  
Gayle and Brandi

## HONORS

### Albion College

Jennifer Emmons, of Grayling, has been named to the Albion College Dean's List for the fall 2007 semester.

Students named to the Dean's List must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or above at the completion of the semester. This GPA must be based on at least three units in graded courses and a minimum of four units completed.

Emmons is a junior, majoring in biology and minoring in anthropology. She is the daughter of Jeffrey and Nadine Emmons of Grayling and a graduate of Grayling High School.

## DISTRICT HEALTH #10 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

District Health Department No. 10, Grayling office, has scheduled the following clinics/classes for January.

Immunization clinics: Jan. 2 and 16 by appointment, call 989-348-7800.

Family planning clinic: Jan. 8 and 15. Call 989-348-7800 for an appointment.

WIC clinics: This program provides supplemental foods and nutrition education for eligible pregnant and breast feeding women, infants and children: Jan. 2, 10, 14, 16, 17, 23, 24, 25 and 28. Call 989-348-7800 for an appointment.

Flu clinics: Call 989-348-7800 for an appointment.

OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Standard Training sessions: For information call 231- 876-3839.

Breast and cervical cancer screenings are available to women ages 40-64 who have limited or no health insurance. A clinic is scheduled for Jan. 15 in Grayling. Call 989-348-7800, ext. 8042, for an appointment.

Hearing and vision screenings: This is a free program for children. Appointments are necessary. Clinics are held in Crawford County, at the Head Start building in Grayling. Call 989-348-7800 for an appointment.

The Crawford County branch office of District Health Department #10 is located on Meadows Drive, east of the South I-75 Business Loop, in Grayling.

## LIBRARY NEWS

A children's program titled "Play with your Food" will be held at the Devereaux Memorial Library on Tuesday, Jan. 15, from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Special guest will be Melissa Piehl, family food and nutrition expert from the M.S.U. Extension Office. She will show that healthy eating can be a lot of fun, if you know how to turn food into an adventure. For information, or to sign up, call 989-348-9214 ext. 1.

"The Great Michigan Read" is a community reading program for the entire state. With a statewide focus on a single literary masterpiece, the Michigan Humanities Council announced the selection of Ernest Hemingway's "The Nick Adams Stories" for the first-ever Great Michigan Read. Most of the stories are set in Michigan, as the author spent the majority of his first 22 summers in northern Michigan. These life experiences played an essential role in his development as one of the world's most significant writers and this book encourages Michiganders to read and rediscover literature. You can participate by getting a copy of the book at the library and discussing it with your family, friends or the C.C.L.L. Book Club, which has picked April 29 for its meeting.

The C.C.L.L. Book Club meets at the Devereaux Memorial Library, on the last Tuesday of each month, at 5 p.m.

For more information, or to sign up, call 348-9214.

### St. John Lutheran



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The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints  
President David Page  
600 North Elm Street, Gaylord  
Sacrament.....10 am  
Sunday School.....11 am  
Primary.....11 am  
Priesthood.....12 noon  
Relief Society.....12 noon

Burning Bush Tabernacle  
Pastor Patricia Petrie, 348-1278  
501 E. Michigan Ave., Grayling  
Sunday School.....10 am  
Sunday Service, Children's Church and Youth Service.....11 am  
Sunday Evening Service.....6 pm  
Monday Prayer Meeting.....7 pm  
Wednesday Service.....7 pm  
Friday Prayer Meeting.....7 pm  
(van transportation available)

St. John Lutheran (ELCA)  
710 Spruce Street  
348-5224  
Sunday School.....9:15 am  
Sunday Worship.....10:30 am

Community of Christ  
Pastor Ann Doly  
North Down River Rd. at  
1030 Glenn Rd. • 348-9751  
Church School.....9:45 am  
Preaching.....11 am  
Midweek Service Prayer.....7 pm

St. Mary's Roman Catholic Community  
Robert W. Nalley, J.V., Pastor  
Parish Office - 707 Spruce - 348-7657  
Saturday Evening Masses.....4:30 pm  
Sunday Masses.....10:00 am

St. Francis Episcopal  
Reverend Elizabeth Chase  
M-72 West • Office 348-5850  
Morning Prayer Tues-Fri.....8:30 am  
Eucharist (Wed.).....8:30 am  
Sunday Holy Eucharist.....8:30 & 10:30 am

Resurrection Life Center  
Pastor Bud & Debbie Mann  
Sunday Service.....10:30 am  
Mid Week Services (Wed).....7:00 p.m.  
Mail: 2640 M-72 West Grayling, MI 49738  
Phone: 989-348-1000  
E-mail: [reslifecenter@hotlmail.com](mailto:reslifecenter@hotlmail.com)

Mt. Hope Lutheran Church (LCMS)  
(989) 348-5921  
905 N. I-75 Bus. Loop,  
at the junction of M-93 & Old 27  
Saturday Evening Worship Service.....7 pm  
Sunday Worship Service.....10:30 am

Sunday School.....9:15 am  
Calvary Baptist Church  
Dr. Robert Barnett, Pastor  
M-72 West

Sunday School.....9:45 am  
Morning Worship.....10:30 am  
Evening Worship.....6 pm  
Wednesday.....7 pm  
Prayer & Awana Club (Wed.).....7 pm

Church of Christ  
Old US-27 at Skyline Rd. • 275-8613  
In Search of the Lord's Way  
Sunday Mornings on

TV 29 & 8.....7:30 am  
Sunday Classes.....10 am  
Sunday Worship.....11 am  
Sunday Evening.....6 pm  
1st Sunday Evening of every month there is no service.  
Mid-Week Bible Study (Wed).....7 pm

Abundant Life Tabernacle  
Pastor Lyle Stader  
211 Shellenbarger St. • 348-5325  
Sunday School.....10 am  
Sunday Worship.....11 am & 6:00 pm  
Wednesday Evening.....7 pm

Grayling Baptist Church  
Affiliated with S.B.C.  
Pastor John Scott  
705 Madsen St. • Grayling • 348-2557  
Sunday School.....9:45 am  
Morning Worship.....11 am  
Evening Service.....6 pm  
Wednesday Service.....7 pm

Bear Lake Christian  
Pastor David Rosenberg  
Associate Pastor Scott Hoffer  
M-72 & East Bear Lake Rd.  
Sunday Church Service.....10 am - 6:30 pm  
Sunday School.....9 am  
Bible Study (Wed.).....7 pm  
Youth Group 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed.....6:30 pm

Luzerne Baptist  
Pastor James Durllee  
2247 Durfee Lane  
Sunday School.....10 am  
Sunday Morning Worship.....11 am  
Sunday Evening Worship.....6 pm  
Wednesday Bible Study.....7 pm

Church Alive Church of God  
Pastor David Barker  
506 North Birch St., Kalkaska  
(231) 258-3448  
Sunday School.....10 am  
Worship Service.....11 am & 6 pm  
Family Training Hour and Prayer (Wednesday).....7 pm

St. Martin Ev. Lutheran (WELS)  
Douglas Carter - Pastor  
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Tue. Women's Bible Study.....10 am  
Wed. Men's Bible Study.....12 noon

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The Church Directory is used by residents and visitors. If you wish to show your support for area churches, call the Avalanche at 348-6811, to be included on this page.



## Wildlife photo donated to library



Local artist Clay Horton recently donated a photograph called "Alpha Hunter" to the Devereaux Memorial Crawford County Library. It's the latest addition to the library's permanent art collection. The photo rendering "Alpha Hunter" was recorded in southern Crawford County. Horton observed the coyote feeding on a large road killed deer and approached the scene. The coyote retreated, but remained close enough for several photos. Horton donated the image in recognition of the library's help in obtaining his recent Master's degree from Ferris State University. Above, Crawford County Library Director Bambi Mansfield-Sanderson and Horton display the photo.

## Huron Pines partners with AmeriCorps

More than ever, with the rapid changes northern Michigan is facing, there is an urgent need for the conservation community to use new approaches and improve collaboration.

Huron Pines AmeriCorps: Developing Leaders in Conservation is a new program designed to enable conservation organizations to meet their resource protection goals. The program is administered by Huron Pines, a nonprofit organization, whose mission is to conserve the forests, lakes and streams of Northeast Michigan.

"Our belief is that stronger organizations make for better stewardship of natural resources," said Huron Pines Executive Director Brad Jensen. "The innovative services that Huron Pines AmeriCorps provides will strengthen a local community's ability to improve natural resources."

Through the program, 10 members directly serve for a year with nonprofit conservation groups and conservation districts. Huron Pines AmeriCorps members will provide assistance with organizational capacity building, volunteer coordination, on-the-ground restoration and habitat improvement projects, public outreach and stewardship.

Organizations participating in the program include Freshwater Future, Grand Traverse Conservation District, Headwaters Land Conservancy, Huron Pines, Michigan Association of Conservation Districts, Michigan Council of Trout Unlimited, Muskegon River Watershed Assembly and the Otsego Conservation District. All of these groups provide direct services to northern Michigan resources in a variety of ways including: consulting one-on-one with landowners, producing educational materials, completing habitat improvement projects, restoring erosion sites, developing volunteer programs, providing assistance to other non-profit and watershed groups and working with landowners to permanently protect their land. Providing each organization with a member greatly increases their opportunity to promote and

deliver services.

There is a Huron Pines AmeriCorps member serving in Grayling.

Nathan Skibbe, an Alpena native, serves as volunteer coordinator with Huron Pines. His duties entail developing a volunteer program, including working with staff and partners, to identify volunteer opportunities, matching volunteers with appropriate tasks, tracking efforts and developing a volunteer recognition program.

If you are interested in volunteering, or have a potential volunteer project, please contact Skibbe at [volunteer@huron-pines.org](mailto:volunteer@huron-pines.org) or (989) 344-0753 ext. 14.

Casey Ressler, the outreach specialist for Huron Pines and a Traverse City native, focuses on coordinating public outreach and organizational marketing programs, building program support, assisting with the publication of quarterly newsletters, designing brochures, developing and tracking media contacts, working with staff on project updates and creating and distrib-

uting press releases.

If you have any information about upcoming events, or would like to contact Ressler, look online at [info@huronpines.org](mailto:info@huronpines.org) or call (989) 344-0753 ext. 14.

Huron Pines, established in 1973 and located in Grayling, strives to reach their conservation goals by protecting the community's water, land and people. Huron Pines concentrates on three main project areas: aquatic restoration, land stewardship and conservation leadership. They focus on the 11 counties of Northeast Michigan and connect with a variety of partners such as local governments, non-profit organizations, area residents and private businesses.

Huron Pines AmeriCorps is supported in part with funds from the Corporation for National and Community Service, under a grant from the Michigan Community Service Commission and contributions from host sites participating in the program.

For more information about the program, please visit

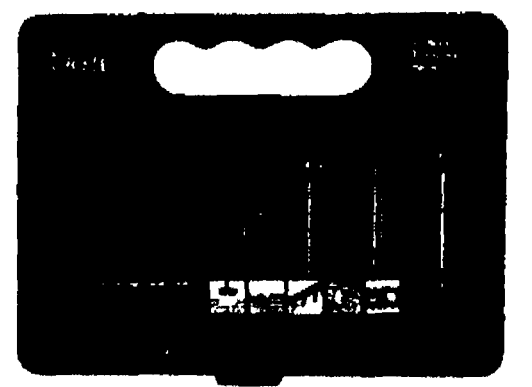
[www.huronpinesameriCorps.org](http://www.huronpinesameriCorps.org) or contact Lisha Ramsdell, program director, at (989) 344-0753.



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## How long can Michigan go? And who's to blame?

by Tim Alberta  
**Capital News Service**

With the highest unemployment rate in the nation and a Legislature that was unable to balance the state's budget in time to prevent a government shutdown, Michigan residents are voicing their disdain for a government that some experts call "dysfunctional."

And there's plenty of blame to go around.

A recent poll by EPIC/MRA, a public-opinion research firm in Lansing, showed approval ratings for both the governor and the Legislature at an all-time low.

Only 35 percent of the 600 people responding gave Gov. Jennifer Granholm positive ratings, while 65 percent rated her job performance negatively. The Legislature fared worse, with only 15 percent approving of its performance, in contrast to 85 percent who gave it negative markings.

Bill Ballenger, editor of the Inside Michigan Politics newsletter, has observed state politics for 40 years, including time as a Republican state senator and representative. Asked if Michigan has hit rock bottom, Ballenger didn't hesitate to say, "Yes."

"There have been other times, like back in the early 1980s, when it was this bad—but it's never lasted this long," Ballenger

said. "Sadly, it doesn't look like it's getting any better."

Ballenger said the public's contempt for elected officials stems mostly from an economy that is one of the worst in the nation and leaders who spend more time arguing about problems than working to solve them.

"It all relates back to the state of our economy," Ballenger said. "We lead the U.S. in unemployment, we've lost tons of manufacturing jobs and the Big Three are in economic turbulence."

"Then people read about our dysfunctional Legislature and our inept governor, so it's just a steady drip of bad news for Michigan," he said.

Craig Ruff, senior policy fellow at Public Sector Consultants in Lansing, said there is a "poisonous attitude toward government and its politicians across the board."

"In Michigan today, there is the sourest mood that I've seen in 35 years, and that encompasses Vietnam, the Nixon disgrace and a near-depression in 1982 and 1983," Ruff said.

Asked if he thinks Michigan is at its lowest point ever, Ruff said, "Yeah, I do. I've talked to a lot of different people, and what I've come away with is as pessimistic and cynical as I've seen in 35 years."

Roger Martin, a partner in Martin Waymire Advocacy Communications, a Lansing-based public relations firm, said, "Our Legislature is so inept it's unbelievable."

"It was so easy to see the shutdown coming, I predicted it back in October of 2005. These people were unable to do the only job the Constitution requires them to do," Martin said in reference to creating a balanced budget.

Martin said the temporary continuation budget passed to pre-

vent a full-scale shutdown was nothing more than a bandage on a gaping wound.

"We're already \$500 million in the hole going into next year," he said. "They've balanced the budget in a way that will come back to haunt them."

"This is an inexperienced, largely ignorant group of legislators," Martin said.

In addition to governmental problems, Michigan's unemployment rate recently reached 7.7 percent, a high for the year.

Charles Ballard, professor of economics at Michigan State University and author of the book "Michigan's Economic Future," said he hopes for a turnaround that will result from Michigan diversifying its economy.

"I think there's lots of reasons to be optimistic about the future," Ballard said. "In the 1960s, half of Michigan's total economy was in manufacturing. Now, that number is down below 20 percent."

"We're moving toward a more diverse economy, but it's not a process where you snap your fingers and it's fixed by next Tuesday."

Ballard said that while the current situation is about as close to the bottom as Michigan can go, residents should learn from history that things can—and will—get better.

"Twenty-five years ago this month, unemployment reached 17 percent, its highest point ever," Ballard said. "In November of 1982, the number of people unemployed was more than 700,000. Right now, we have fewer than 400,000."

"I know that's not ideal, but we need to keep it in perspective. People in Michigan are resilient, and they've shown they can survive this—we've weathered

much worse," he said.

Ballenger said he disagreed with one finding from the EPIC/MRA poll: placing more blame on the Legislature than on Granholm.

"Contrary to public opinion, the fault lies more with the governor," Ballenger said.

"Personally, I think she's been an exceedingly weak governor. She's made plenty of situations worse, which is evidence of just how inept she is."

Asked to cite examples, Ballenger said, "There are too many to name."

"The Legislature is as dysfunctional as I've ever seen it, and we haven't had a governor this bad in 60 years," Ballenger said. "There's not a whole lot that can be done—we're stuck with these people for now."

"The best thing Jennifer Granholm could do at this point is resign and let Lt. Gov. John Cherry take over," he said.

But Ballard disagreed, saying the fault lies more with the legislative branch than the executive. "Giving the Legislature an 'F' grade would be kind," he said.

Ballard added that the real problem lies with politicians who are so "bitterly partisan" that they can't put their political differences aside.

"These people poison the atmosphere in Lansing," he said. "They're not loyal to Michigan—they're loyal to their parties."

Ruff said the blame belongs equally to the governor and the legislators.

"You can't separate them—it takes three to tango," Ruff said, referring to the Democratic governor, the GOP-controlled Senate and the Democratic-majority House. "The governor is inseparable from the other two."

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## RAFFLE WINNERS

### Grayling Youth Booster Club

The 50/50 raffle winners for Dec. 23 of \$25 each: Dan Canfield, Scott Andrews, Dean Worden (2), Sydney Klee, Gary Kirkpatrick, Sandy Woodsey, Brenda LaMotte, Marilyn Hawkins, Terry Orr, Carolyn

### Rakoczy, Cheryl Osborne, Rose Jernberg, Clarence Bryans, Kim McClain, Mary Cole, Scott Jacobson, Jodi Sajdak, Laura Bonenfant, Rene Collen (2), Jim Ryan, Brian Andersen, Joe Lehman, Arlene Reimer, Ace Worden, Michelle Starks, Tom

### Kaske, Vivian Balmes and Erin Akers.

### Grayling Lions Club

The winner of the Grayling Lions Club Lucky 13 raffle for Dec. 21 of \$100 is: Troy and Carrie Herblet.

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## Clowning around for Christmas



The members of the American Legion Post #106, and the Ladies Auxiliary, hosted 250 kids at their annual Christmas party on Saturday. Each child was presented a toy, a stocking full of treats and had their picture taken with Santa Claus. In addition, Legion members also gave stockings to residents at Mercy Manor, the Grayling Nursing Center and Riverhouse Shelter. Above, Megan Benson, 6, a first grader at Grayling Elementary School, visits with clowns, Pillows and Wiggles.

Photo by Dan Sanderson

## License plate surcharge would replace state park fee

by David Salisbury  
Capital News Service

A proposed \$9 surcharge on license plates for all passenger and recreation vehicles would help pay for state parks and other natural resource programs, supporters of the bill say.

The new surcharge would replace the current vehicle permits for state parks and boating access areas, but would not replace camping fees. Out-of-state visitors still would have to purchase a vehicle permit to use the parks.

Currently, vehicle passes are \$6 a day, or \$24 a year.

Ron Olson, state parks chief at the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), said the proposed surcharge is an effort to

prevent a projected \$5.3 million deficit in the state park budget.

Without the extra money, Olson said, "it could even mean closing parks down altogether."

Olson estimates \$35 million generated from the new surcharge — well above the projected deficit.

The plan is modeled after one in Montana where residents can opt out of the parks fee. Montana has seen only about 15 percent of its motorists do that, Olson said.

The proposal also would allocate 10 percent of revenue generated from the surcharge for grants to local recreation programs.

Olson said he expects input from the Natural Resources Commission to shape how the proposal is brought to the Legislature, which would have to

approve the final plan.

Tony Hansen, press secretary at the Michigan United Conservation Clubs, said that although the idea sounds "interesting," he doesn't expect to see it pass.

"There's been an eight-month fight on hunting and fishing licenses to cure the DNR deficit," he said. "I don't expect to see anything happening with this either."

DNR Director Rebecca Humphries said that "some funding plan is needed" and has proposed closing 37 state parks to erase the deficit.

Kelly Chesney, press secretary for Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land, said her office had not seen details of the proposal and had no comment.

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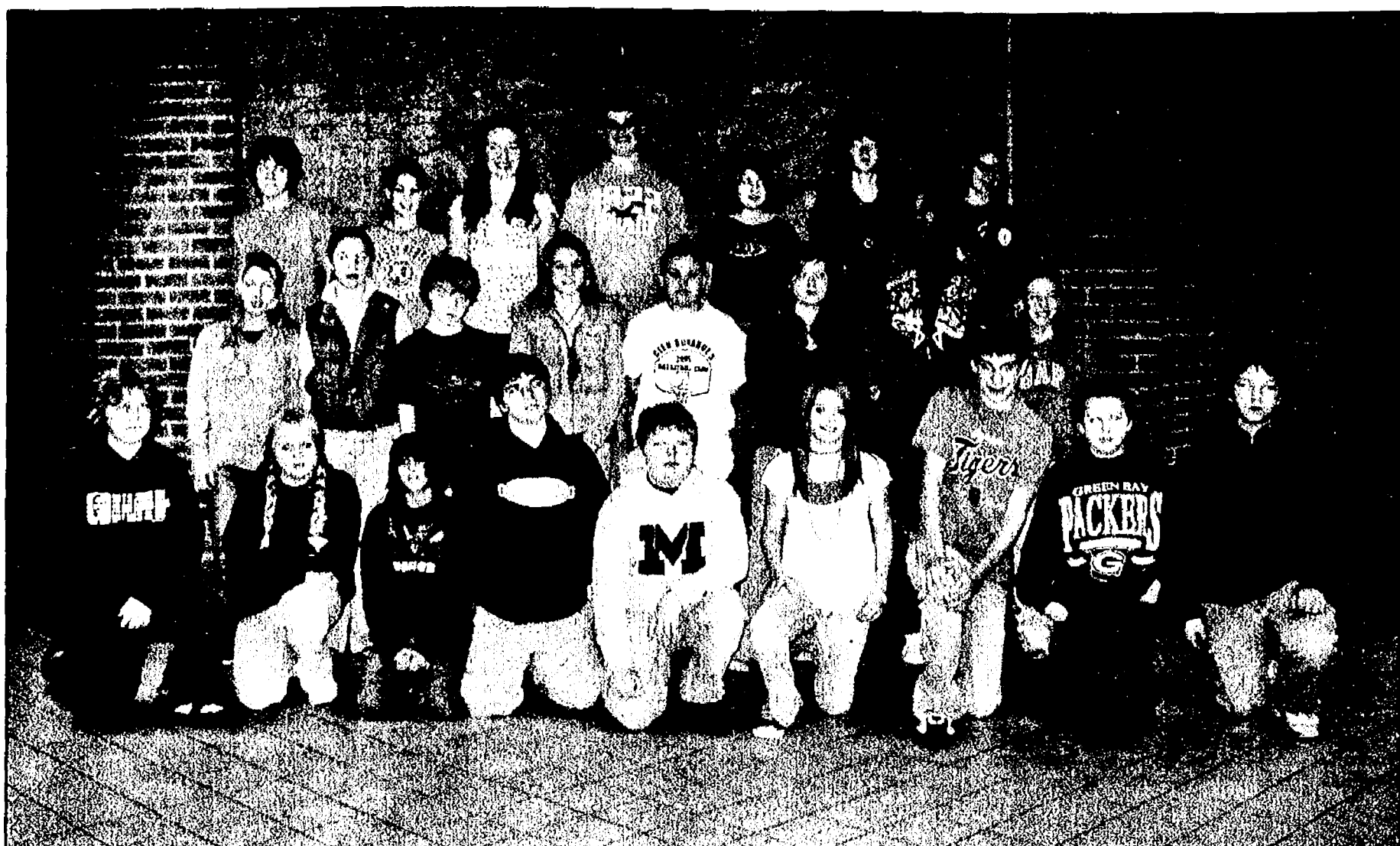
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## GMS names students of the month



The students selected as Grayling Middle School Students of the Month for November are, from the left: (back row) Nick Amaya, Mikaela Ashton, Samantha Birtles, Thomas Burrell, Justice Cochrane, James Day, Stanna Dorn; (middle row) Jessica Fik, Jo Hamlin, Kevin Harris, Kristie Helsel, Joe Latusek, August Ledesma, Xavier Lindsey, Torrey Messerschmidt; (front row) Dakota Myers, Brittany Naumiec, Amar Patel, Joe Schwartz, Nicholas Smock, Jessica Starr, Zane Tobin, Larry Vansickle, David Zarnick; (not pictured) Katie Atwood.

## Engineering Society offers scholarships to college undergraduates

The Michigan Society of Professional Engineers (MSPE) is offering six scholarships, valued up to \$3000 annually, to undergraduate students pursuing an engineering degree at an ABET accredited Michigan college or university. Michigan universities, engineering compa-

nies and MSPE fund the scholarships.

Eligible students must be a U.S. citizen and a Michigan resident, be a student member of MSPE (applications available online), and have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. The deadline for

applications is the second Monday in April, 2008.

For applications, please contact MSPE at 517-487-9388 or at [mspe@voyager.net](mailto:mspe@voyager.net). Applications can also be found at MSPE's Web site at [www.michiganspe.org](http://www.michiganspe.org).

Founded in 1946, MSPE is an

affiliate of the National Society of Professional Engineers, and represents Professional Engineers from all technical disciplines, engineers-in-training, and engineering students in Michigan. NSPE serves more than 50,000 members, 2000 of whom are MSPE members.

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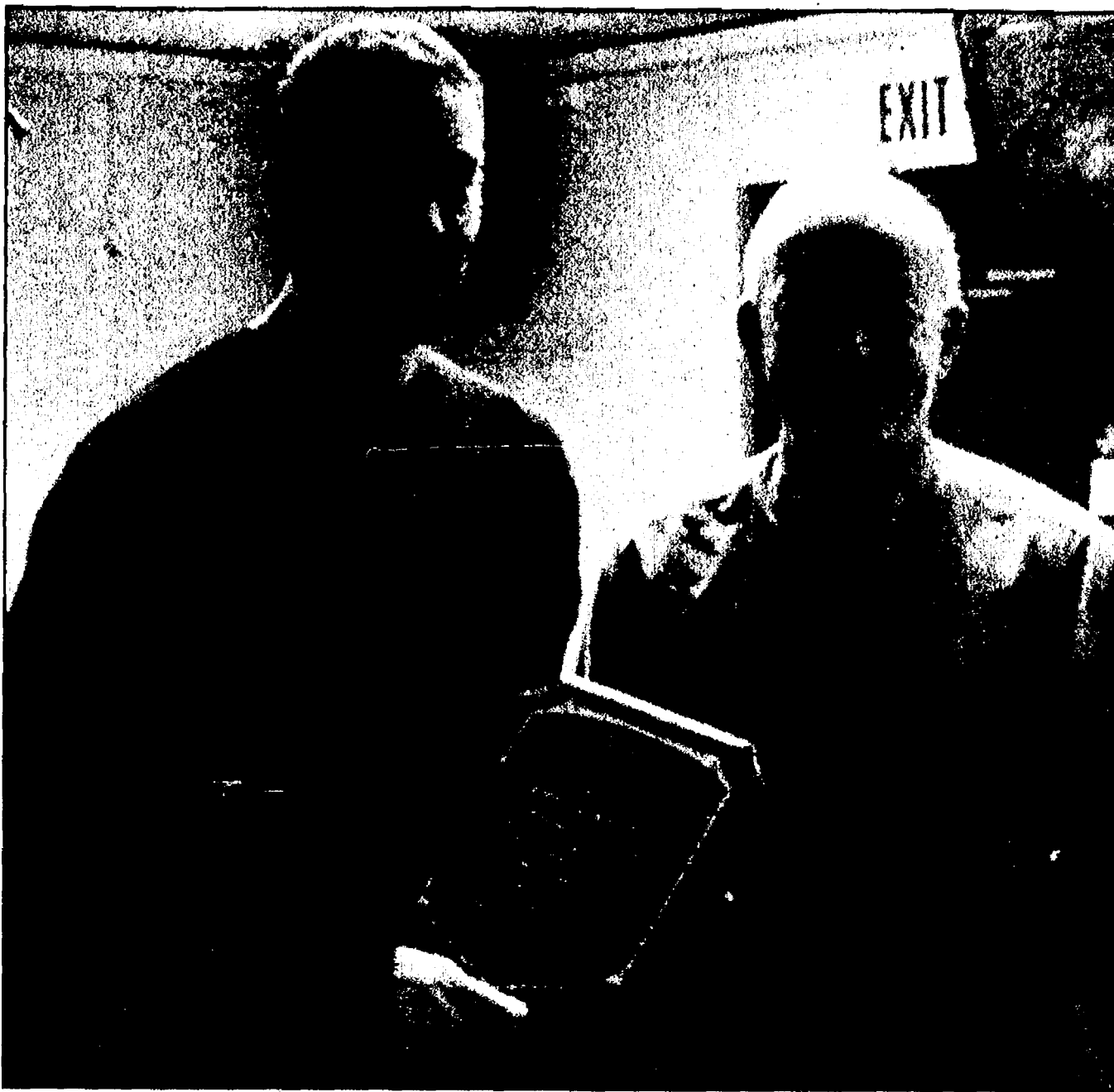
## Hamina receives Ralph Sperry Memorial Award

Once a year, the C.O.O.R. Board of Education and R.O.O.C., Inc. present the Ralph Sperry award. This memorial award is given to an individual in recognition of his or her contributions to assist people with disabilities to overcome barriers and to participate fully in their communities. This year's recipient is Eric Hamina.

Hamina has been at the Timbers Restaurant since 2006 and began employing people with disabilities almost immediately. He had previously worked with people with disabilities and he knew the value of supported employment programs and services like those provided at R.O.O.C., Inc.

R.O.O.C.'s first placement at the Timbers was an individual who had been previously employed at another restaurant for several years. With support from Hamina and his staff, this individual is able to work successfully for the Timbers without any staff assistance from R.O.O.C. — something he had not been able to accomplish in years of doing the same type of work at another location.

That successful outcome could not have been possible without the culture of support and respect for people with disabilities that Hamina has created. Hamina's philosophy is that it does not



C.O.O.R. Board President Bob Carpenter (right), presented Eric Hamina (left) with the Ralph Sperry award.

matter if you have a disability — if you work hard on achieving your dreams, you will. His sup-

port not only provides a paycheck for people with disabilities, but also gives the communi-

ty a chance to see what people can accomplish when given an opportunity.

## Tax break proposed to curb smoking in bars and restaurants

by Tim Alberta  
Capital News Service

This year alone, there have been 10 proposals by legislators to ban public smoking in some way, shape or form.

One stands out from the rest, however. Instead of requiring restaurants to outlaw smoking, it would reward those that choose to comply.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. Jason Allen, R-Traverse City, would allow local governments to provide property tax exemptions for bars and restaurants that ban smoking.

More than 20 counties have passed ordinances banning cigarette smoking in workplaces and other public venues, but nothing has passed at the state level to force restaurants and bars to prohibit smoking.

Joe Agnostinelli, Allen's legislative director, said the bill is intended to promote a compromise on the issue and provide restaurants an opportunity to choose whether they want to allow smoking.

"Our intention was to find some middle ground on an issue that's been percolating for more than six years now," Agnostinelli said. "Sen. Allen doesn't feel it's the state's position to make mandates to restaurants about how they operate their private establishments."

Co-sponsors are Sens. Randy Richardville, R-Monroe; Valde Garcia, R-Howell; Alan Sanborn, R-Richmond Township; and Jim Barcia, D-Bay City.

But Angy Webb, tobacco programs manager for the American Lung Association of Michigan, disagreed, saying the state has a responsibility to protect its residents.

"This is a public safety issue," Webb said. "Our goal is to see all public and private workplaces go smoke-free."

Webb said her organization's concern isn't just for the health of smokers and other patrons, but also for employees of businesses that allow smoking on their premises.

"People who work in bars—waitresses, bartenders, entertainers—all these people are exposed to second-hand smoke, which is the second-leading cause of death in the United States," Webb said.

Andy Deloney, vice president of public affairs for the Michigan Restaurant Association, said the industry group is against the state interfering with businesses—but appreciates the options provided by the proposal.

"If the state has an interest in promoting non-smoking restaurants, this is the way to do it," Deloney said. "We don't support smoking or non-smoking we

support restaurants and tavern operators making decisions for themselves."

Agnostinelli said the legislation will appeal to owners of businesses that allow smoking because it gives them options instead of orders.

"The goal is to use the carrot instead of the stick," he said. "If you give incentives to change a company's policy, it's easier than requiring them to do something."

"I've gotten calls from business owners who say this is much better than the state telling them what to do inside their own private establishment," Agnostinelli said.

Deloney agreed, saying, "If something does need to be done, we're definitely more appreciative of the carrot approach than the stick."

Webb said she understands the concerns of restaurant owners "from a business standpoint," but said nothing would be fairer than an absolute ban on smoking inside any public place.

"They want a level playing field, but if the state goes smoke-free, it would provide a level playing field because no restaurant would worry about losing business to the bar across the street," Webb said.

But Deloney said that restaurant owners are good at providing what their customers demand—including a smoke-free environment.

"Since 1998, smoke-free restaurants in Michigan have increased by 115 percent," Deloney said. "That says one thing: As more people say they don't want smoking in their restaurants, more owners are providing that environment for them."

Agnostinelli said the state shouldn't determine what incentives are offered to cooperating restaurant owners, which is why Allen's proposal would leave that choice to local governments.

"The bill lets the local governing body allow for tax exemptions—it's their decision to decide to what extent they want to take it," Agnostinelli said. "It's a decision for the locals how they want to enforce it."

He acknowledged that although local governments would lose revenue by reducing taxes, the state wouldn't reimburse any of that loss.

Summer Minnick, director of state affairs for the Michigan Municipal League, said, "the legislation is favorable because it's not mandatory. It puts control in the hands of local governments."

The league, which represents cities and villages, has no official position on the bill, Minnick said.

The Lung Association's Webb said the state should join the long list of other governments that totally ban smoking inside public places.

"Other countries have gone



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## NEMCOG non-motorized transportation plan to cover 11 counties

NEMCOG begins a one-year planning effort funded by the Michigan Department of Transportation. The purpose is to develop a comprehensive, regional Non-Motorized Transportation Plan and Investment Strategy for Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle and Roscommon Counties that can be utilized by the Michigan Department of Transportation and local officials to prioritize project implementation, identify funding sources and guide investment in the region's non-motorized transportation system.

This project will build off and utilize the data and maps developed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments for the MDOT-funded Non-Motorized Trail Mapping Project.

"This project offers anyone

interested the opportunity to work with others, both private citizens and governmental agencies, who share their visions of a connected trail network throughout Northeast Michigan," stated Nico Tucker, Transportation Planner at NEMCOG.

The MDOT North Region Office initiated the planning effort. The development of a comprehensive plan, and the identification of priority projects within this area, will help guide MDOT's investment in the region's non-motorized transportation system.

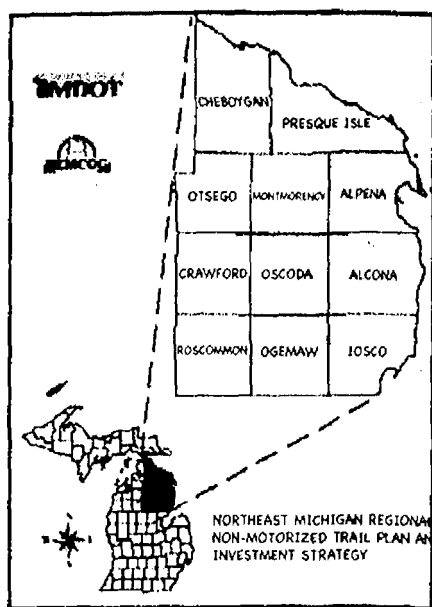
Local community input is crucial to the success of this planning effort. The process will examine existing trails, proposed future trails and potential connectors between trails and points of interest.

Activities associated with the project's implementation that will

be performed by the Northeast Michigan Council of Governments:

A series of meetings will be held across the 11 county planning area. • Regional Trails Summit/Kick-off Meeting with state, county and local officials in the region, non-profit organizations and many others who manage or have an interest in the non-motorized trail system within the region. • Eleven meetings - one in each county - with the individual county working committees immediately followed by public input sessions. • A series of sub-regional working committee meetings/public input sessions to gather feedback on the draft plan.

Create individual maps, illustrating existing infrastructure assets and natural features information, utilizing the data already gathered by the Northeast Michigan Council of



Governments during the MDOT-funded Non-Motorized Trail Mapping Project.

To encourage public involvement, a project Web site that explains the initiative and includes an interactive component to gather public input, will be created and maintained on NEMCOG's Web site [www.nemcog.org](http://www.nemcog.org). In addition, tabletop displays will be placed in public libraries with pre-addressed comment forms that allow interested parties to provide comments.

At the culmination of public and community input component, a plan will be drafted and made available to stakeholders for their review and comments. Key stakeholders will be asked to endorse the plan. After which the plan will be submitted to MDOT.

"This project presents an excellent opportunity for communities across an 11 county region to work together and plan for future trail development and connectivity between their trail systems," stated Richard Deuell, AICP, Deputy Director at NEMCOG.

For additional information on the Northeast Michigan Regional Non-Motorized Transportation Plan and Investment Strategy, go to [www.nemcog.org](http://www.nemcog.org) and look under "Projects" or call Nico Tucker at (989) 732-3551 ext. 20.

## November blood drives

The American Red Cross held a blood drive on Nov. 6, at the Frederic Elementary School, sponsored by the Frederic Fire Department. Eva Hulbert, coordinator, reported that there were 35 donors present. A seven gallon pin was awarded to Donald Chio. There were three first time donors: Monica Barr, Phyllis Gentile and Amy Johnson.

On Wednesday, Nov. 7, a blood drive was held at, and sponsored by, Grayling High School. There were 90 donors, and the 43 first time donors were: Jason Alexander, Mitchell Alimenti, Shentele Apps, Jessica Baker, Joshua Bofysil, Kristi Calkins, Nikki Dedafae, Kenneth Ducker, Kara Edgerton, Charles Ervin, Krista Feeney, Fawn Filley, Jonathan George, Chad Gildner, Eric Gosicki, Kyle Halstead, Raquel Hawes, Lacy Hollingsworth, Andrew Hulbert, Daryl Jones, Matthew Letts, Jessica McBride, Matthew McDonald, Richard McNamara, Katie Melia, Alexander Millar, Megan Morris, Mac Marrow, Scott Myers, Tory Myers, Mackenzie Nena, Ethan Neuberger, Jessica Riddle, Dustin Schutt, Britny Schwartz, Tyler Steffey, Julie Teal, Holly Teboe, Macie Wakeley, Jennifer Webb, Wayne Wells, Shawn Williams and Jason Wilson.

Immediately after the holidays, the blood supply is low. In order to help assure a sufficient blood supply for hospitals in the northern district, the Red Cross will have two blood drives.

A blood drive, sponsored by M.A.T.E.S., will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 2, at the American Legion Hall, from noon - 5:45 p.m.

A type O blood drive will be held at St. Mary's Family Center, in Grayling, on Friday, Jan. 4, from noon - 5:45 p.m.

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# Wrestling team defeats Clare, Houghton Lake on Thursday

## Vikings win 51-25, 71-9 vs. Pioneers, Bobcats

■ **Eric Madill (189)** passes the 100-win mark for high school wrestling victories

by Caleb Casey  
Senior Staff Writer

The Grayling Vikings defeated the Clare Pioneers and the Houghton Lake Bobcats in a nonconference varsity wrestling meet at Grayling High School last Thursday.

In the first of the event's three contests, Clare outscored Houghton Lake 48-33.

The second series of the meet featured Grayling vs. Clare.

Joe White (112) won by default and Grayling led 6-0. Clare won the 119-pound division with a pin to tie the score at 6-6. The Pioneers scored a pin in the third round of the 125-pound

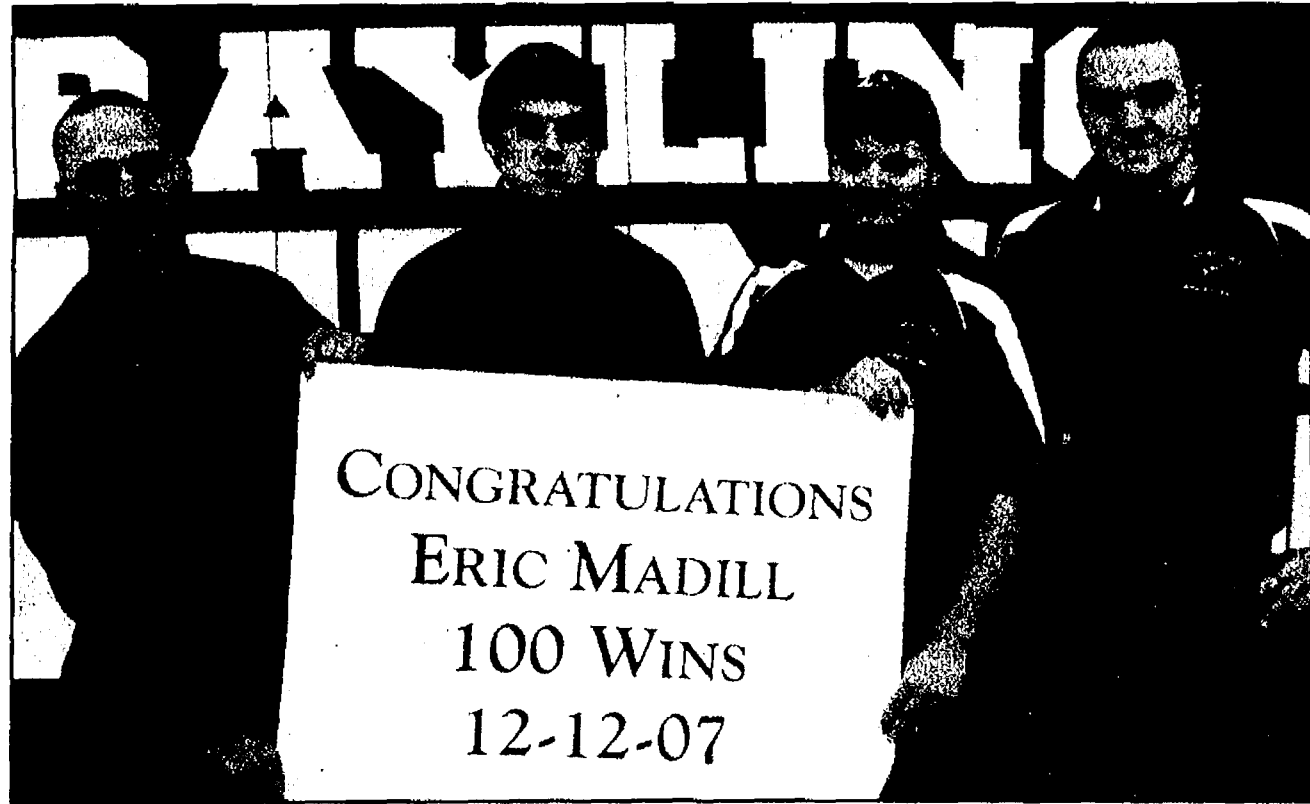
Continued on Page 3B

See "WRESTLING..."



Photos by Caleb Casey

Kyle Peters (heavyweight), left, wrestles against Houghton Lake on Thursday night at Grayling High School. Matt Haight (171), right, tries to pin his Houghton Lake counterpart. Both Grayling wrestlers won their matches vs. the Bobcats by pin.



(Left) Michael Revord (152) battles an opponent from Clare during last Thursday's varsity wrestling meet at Grayling High School. (Right) Eric Madill (189) recently passed the 100-win milestone for career high school wrestling victories. Pictured (L to R): GHS wrestling head coach Joe Ferrigan, Madill, assistant coach Dusty Partello, and assistant coach Joe Ferrigan.

## East Jordan outscores GHS 38-29 in 2nd half to win by 10

■ **Varsity basketball** squad loses league game at East Jordan 64-54 on Tuesday

The GHS varsity boys basketball team lost a Lake Michigan Conference game at East Jordan 64-54 last Tuesday.

The Vikings had a four-point lead, 17-13, at the end of the first quarter. The East Jordan Red Devils led 26-25 at half-time.

East Jordan outscored Grayling 21-12 in the third quarter and took a 47-37 advantage into the fourth period.

With 1:11 left in regulation, Trent Larm converted two free throw shots to pull Grayling within six, 57-51. East Jordan scored a three-point play to extend their lead to nine points. The Vikings answered with a three-pointer by Josh Stapleton at the 36-second mark. Grayling was unable to score any more baskets, and the Red Devils added four points to their total

Continued on Page 2B

See "EAST JORDAN..."



Photo by Caleb Casey

Jason Drudge controls the ball for Grayling during last Tuesday's game at East Jordan.

## JV basketball squad loses by six at East Jordan, 70-64

■ **Red Devils outscore** Grayling 19-13 in final six minutes to win boys basketball game

The East Jordan Red Devils edged Grayling High School's junior varsity boys basketball team 70-64 last Tuesday at East Jordan High School.

The score was tied at 30-30 at halftime. East Jordan took a 49-44 advantage into the fourth period.

The Red Devils scored the first two points of the fourth quarter on a pair of free throws. A three-pointer by Colin Hamlin pulled Grayling within four, 51-47. At the 6:54 mark, Hamlin hit another three-pointer and drew a foul. He converted the free throw for a four-point play, tying the score at 51-51.

Two inside shots by the Red Devils put East Jordan back up by four. A drive by Hamlin cut East Jordan's lead to two, 55-53.

Six unanswered points by the Red Devils gave East Jordan a

Continued on Page 4B

See "JV BASKETBALL..."

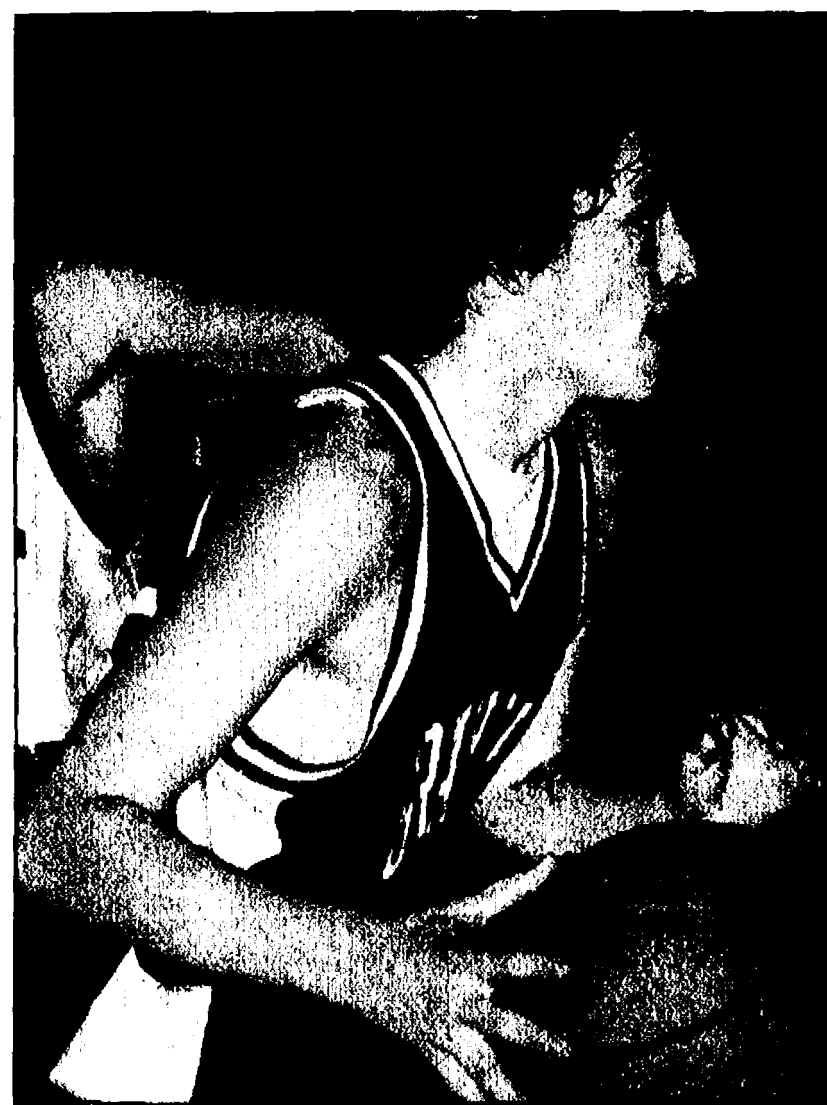


Photo by Caleb Casey

Joe Tottingham dribbles toward the basket on Tuesday night at East Jordan.

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# East Jordan outscores GHS 38-29 in 2nd half to win by 10

Continued from Page 1B  
down the stretch by converting 4 of 4 free throw attempts. East Jordan won by 10, 64-54.

Richard Schreiber had 19 points and 9 steals for the Vikings. Tyler Steffey had 13 points and 5 rebounds. Larm finished with 12 points. Alex Gabriel, Spencer Dean, Jason Drudge, Stapleton, and Matt McDonald also scored points for the Vikings. Dean and Gabriel each had 5 rebounds. Drudge had 5 assists.

"Our kids played very hard in this game," Coach Rich Moffit said. "Tyler Steffey turned in his best performance of the season with 13 points and five boards. Richie Schreiber and Trent Larm shot the ball well."

"The key to the game was our inability to take care of the basketball. Many of our turnovers were unforced. Thirty turnovers in a game vs. minimal defensive pressure is not acceptable. We will get in the gym and work on

our decision making," Coach Moffit said.

The Vikings (1-3 overall, 0-2 conference) will play in the Gladwin Tournament on Dec. 28-29. Grayling will host Elk Rapids on Thursday, Jan. 3.



Photos by Caleb Casey

Matt McDonald battles for a rebound vs. East Jordan on Tuesday night.

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**Happy New Year**

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The map sold extremely well-until it was lost several years later. Incredibly, the printer entrusted with the original drawing and printing plates declared bankruptcy, then carelessly hauled Higbee's 30 years of work to the landfill.

The few remaining dog-eared copies became a prized fisherman's possession. Professor Higbee was offered \$400 for one of his last maps. And state agencies were forced to keep their copies under lock and key.

The experts had always told Professor Higbee that reprints were impossible, because the maps were printed in non-photographic blue.

Then, in 1991, at the age of 91, Howard Higbee's dream came true. Computers made it possible to reprint the map. Holding an updated map, Howard said, "I never thought I'd live to see this day."

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"I have one of the original Higbee's Stream Map of Pennsylvania on my wall behind my desk. It's the best thing available as far as streams are concerned. I use it all the time for reference. I don't know of anything more extensive and it is the most accurate map out there as far as streams are concerned."

--Dave Wolf, PA Fish and Boat Commission

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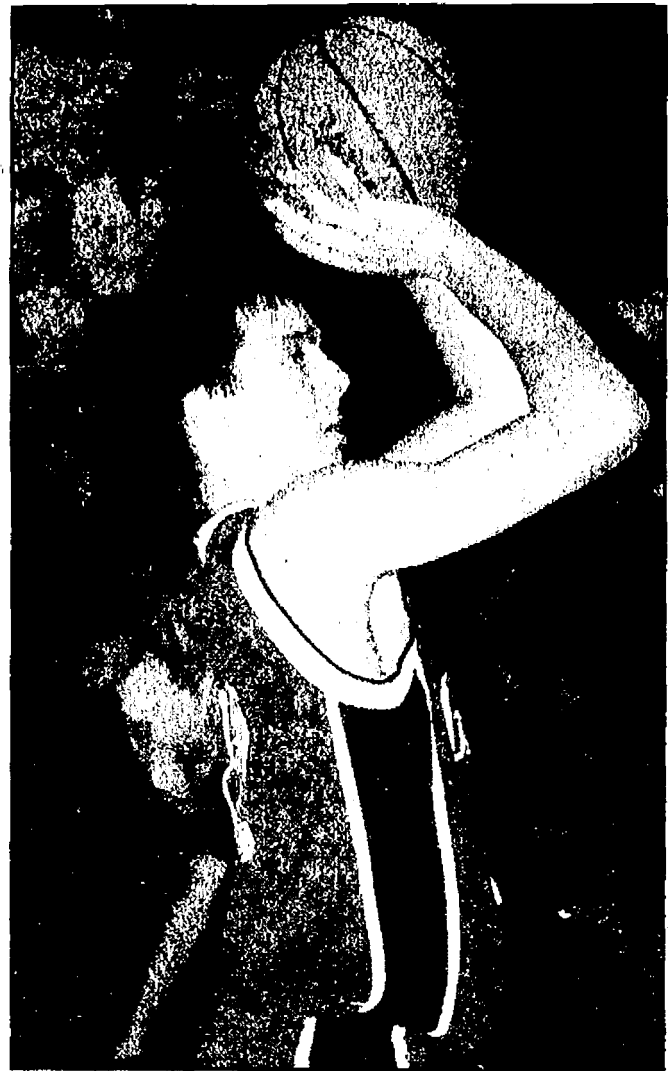
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Trent Larm, left, and Richard Schreiber, right, shoot the ball for the Vikings during last Tuesday's game at East Jordan.



Josh Stapleton, left, shoots a lay-up for Grayling vs. East Jordan last week. Tyler Steffey, right, handles the ball for the Vikings.



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Mead, 522; M. Starks, 507;	
High Game: R. Collen, 214; W.	
Mead, 205; L. Seibert, 203.	





Grayling High School's wrestling team used its new mats for the first time last Thursday during a meet at GHS. The mats were donated by the Grayling Youth Wrestling Club, with help from the Crawford AuSable School District. The mats will be used by GHS and GYWC. Pictured (L to R): CASD athletic director Tim Sanchez, Bob Jensen of GYWC, Larry Duvall of GYWC, and GHS wrestling coach Joe Ferrigan.

## Wrestling team defeats Clare, Houghton Lake on Thursday

Continued from Page 1B

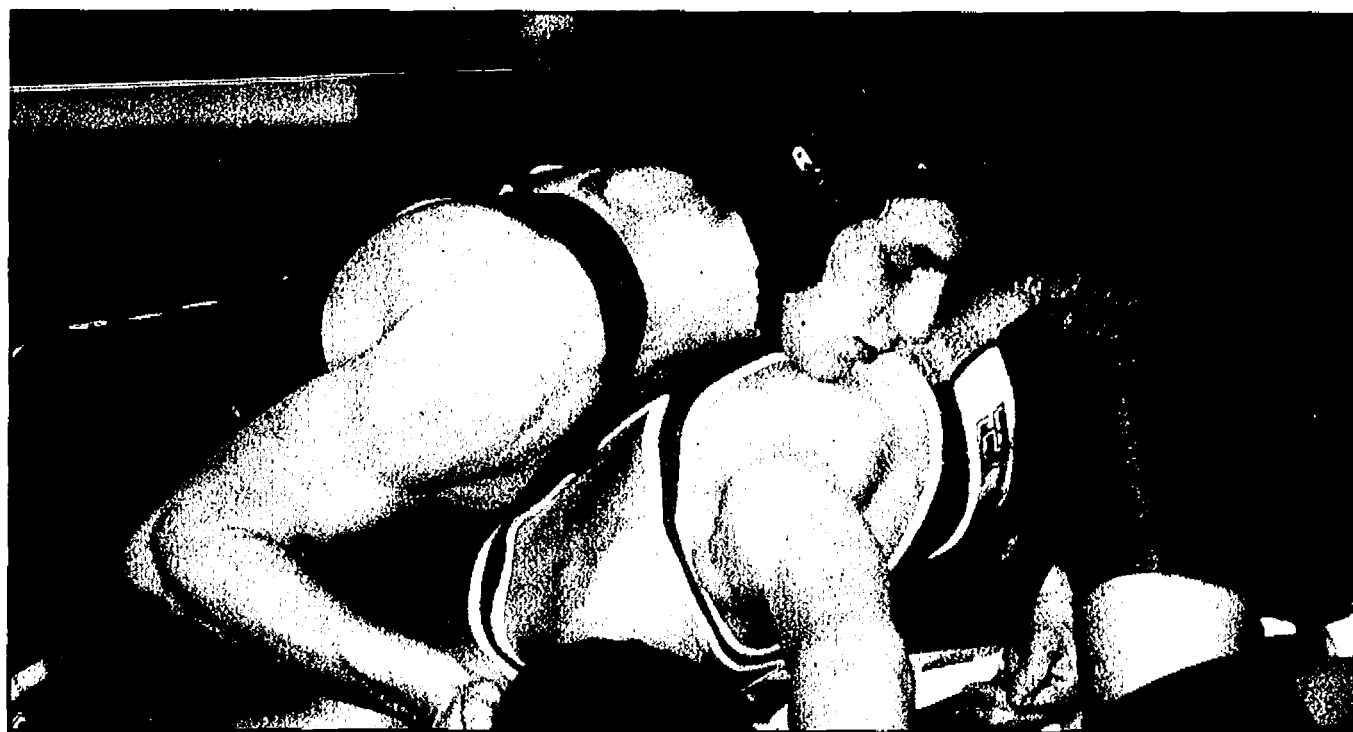
weight class to take a 12-6 lead. Josh Moggo (130) won by default, tying the score at 12-12.

Stephen Grove (135) won his match for Grayling 18-2 for five team points. Clare won the 140-pound division with a second round pin, giving the Pioneers an 18-17 edge.

Cody Collen (145) won 17-4 for four team points. Clare won by decision in the next two weight classes - 152 and 160 - with scores of 15-2 and 12-8. The Pioneers led 25-21 with five weight classes remaining.

Grayling won the final five bouts to win the meet 51-25. Matt Haight (171) won by pin in the second round. Eric Madill (189), who picked up his 100th and 101st career high school wrestling victories two weeks ago at Mio, won his 102nd match with a first round pin vs. Clare. Joey Contreras (215) won by pin in the second round. Kyle Peters won the heavyweight division by default. Ashten Linkhart (103) scored a first round pin in the last bout of the meet.

The Vikings then defeated the Houghton Lake Bobcats 71-9.



Photos by Caleb Casey

Cody Collen (145) wrestles against a Clare opponent on Thursday night. Collen won the match 17-4.

Zach Randall (119) and Olivia Peters (125) won by default. Moggo lost a 1-0 decision in the 130-pound division. Grove (135) and Wolcott (140) pinned their opponents in the first round.

Collen (145), Michael Revord (152), and Shane Grove (160) pinned their Clare counterparts. Haight (171), Madill (189), and Contreras (215) all won with first

round pins. Peters pinned his opponent in the heavyweight division in the second round. Clare won the 103-pound weight class with a pin. In the last match of the night, White (112) won with a first round pin.

The Vikings (2-0 conference) will wrestle in the Freeland Invitational on Saturday, Dec. 29.



Olivia Peters (125) battles a Clare wrestler on Thursday night.



Josh Moggo (130) wrestles against the Houghton Lake Bobcats last week.

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### ALUMNI HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS DUE JANUARY 18, 2008

The 4th Alumni Hall of Fame Ceremony will take place at Grayling High School on Sunday, May 4, 2008. Nomination forms are available at every school and at Central Office. The nomination form is also available on the district website. The three criteria that the board will use to select the alumni are:

- Highest degree possible in candidate's field of study
- Significant life achievement, honor or award
- Significant contribution toward improving the lives of others

If you know someone worthy of this honor, please take the time to fill out a nomination petition. The board will be making the selection by January 21, 2008, and only twenty individuals will be honored this year. The inductees into the Alumni Hall of Fame will be displayed proudly into the main entrance at Grayling High School.

The purpose of this program is to not only to honor graduates from our community who have accomplished great things in their lives but also to motivate our students at the high school to set goals for their own future.

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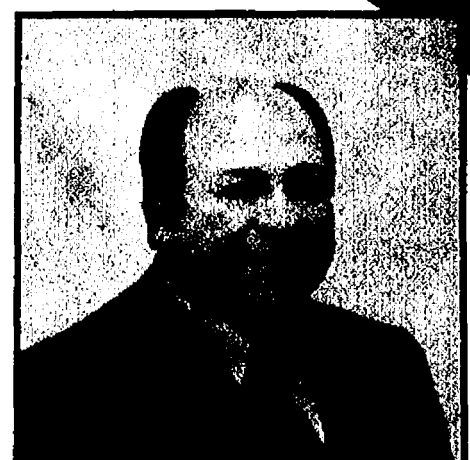
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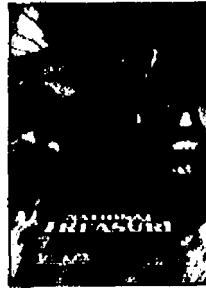


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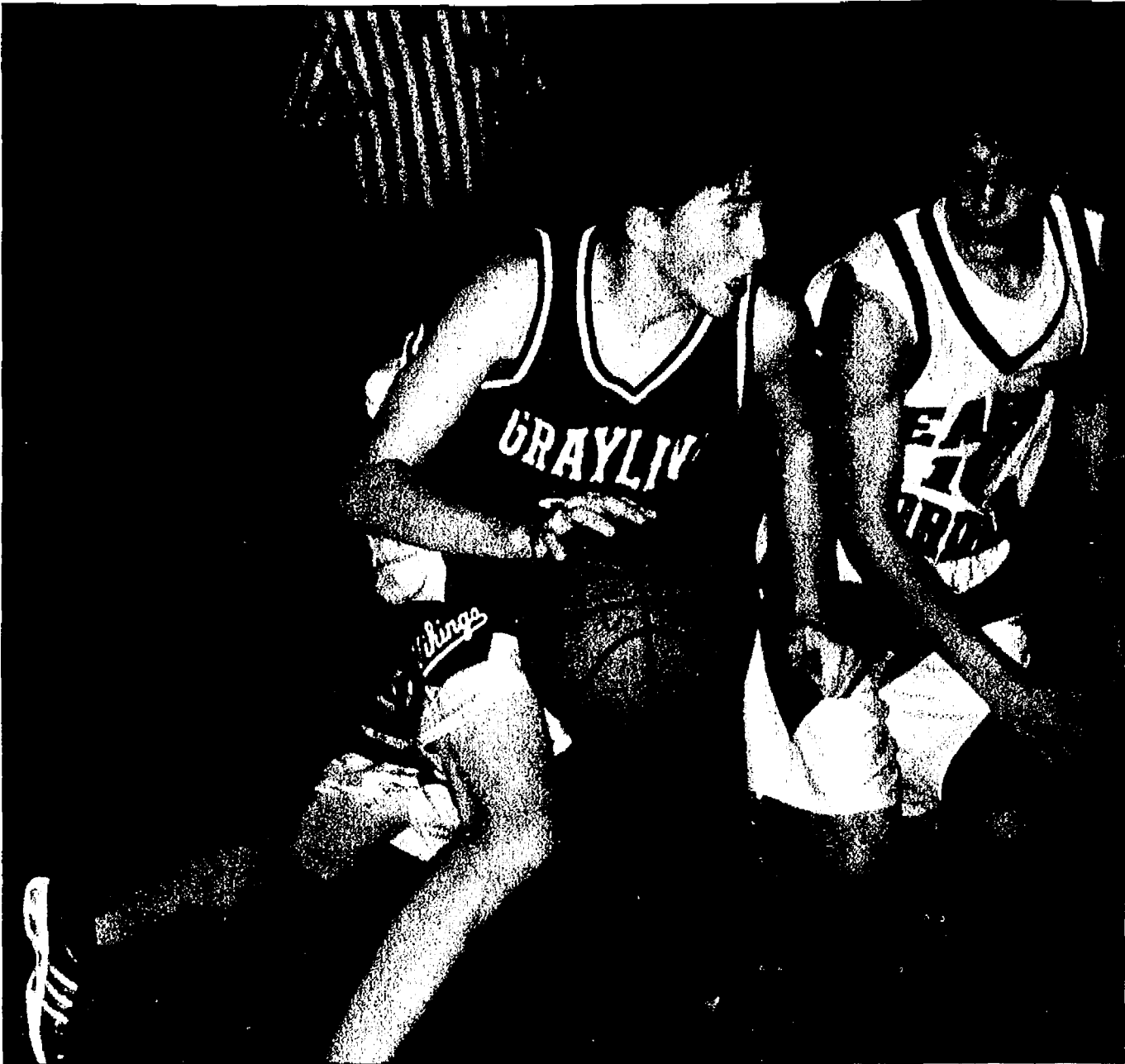
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(PG)  
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**Alvin and the Chipmunks** PG(9)  
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Wed-Thurs 7:00-9:00  
**I am Legend** PG-13(114)  
Fri-Sat-Sun-Mon-Tues 2:00-4:15-7:00-9:15  
Wed-Thurs 7:00-9:15  
**National Treasure: Book of Secrets** PG(135)  
Fri-Sat-Sun-Mon-Tues 1:45-4:15-6:45-9:15  
Fri 7:00-9:00  
Wed-Thurs 7:00-9:00  
**P.S. I Love You** PG-13(106)  
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Wed-Thurs 6:45-9:15  
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Matinee - All Seats \$5.05

# JV basketball squad loses by six at East Jordan, 70-64

Continued from Page 1B  
61-53 advantage with 3:43 left in the game. A jump shot by Josh Johnson cut the East Jordan lead to six. The Red Devils scored an inside shot to go back up by eight.  
A 5-0 run by the Vikings pulled Grayling within three, 63-60, with 2:04 remaining in the contest. The run included two free throws by Joe Tottingham, one free throw by Hamlin, and a put-back by Jordan Small.  
Two drives by East Jordan gave the Red Devils a 67-60

advantage. A jump shot and a drive by Johnson cut East Jordan's lead to three, 67-64, with 27 seconds left in the fourth quarter.  
The Vikings turned the ball over twice in the final 27 seconds and were forced to foul to stop the clock. East Jordan scored three more points down the stretch with free throw shots to win by a final score of 70-64.  
Grayling (2-2) will host Elk Rapids on Thursday, Jan. 3, at 6 p.m.



Colin Hamlin dribbles the ball for the Vikings on Tuesday night at East Jordan.



Josh Johnson drives to the basket for the Vikings on Tuesday.



Jordan Small handles the ball for Grayling at East Jordan.

## POOL LEAGUE

Women's Standings			
Two Track	102	Sawmill	72
Frederic Inn	101	Ramada Inn	39
Legion	81	5 Ball Runs: Vickie (2) (Frederic Inn), Heather (Legion), Beth and Carla (Growler's); Won all	
Growler's Pub	73	games: Siss and Annette (Frederic Inn), Cookie and Donna (Legion).	

**SCOTT McNAMARA OF GRAYLING**  
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102 Michigan Ave • Grayling • (989) 348-6811

**Office Hours**  
**Monday thru Friday**  
**9 a.m. - 5 p.m.**




# 2007-2008 FOOTBALL CONTEST


## PLAY 2 WIN -WEEKLY PRIZES-

Sports Cap - Scheer Motors  
50% off 20 lbs. Propane Cylinder Fill Up - Fick & Sons  
\$50 - Crawford County Avalanche  
Free Express Pizza - Spicy Bob's  
50% off any Concrete Table - HMI Specialties  
Free Bowling Gift Certificate - American Legion  
\$25 Gift Certificate - Comfort Center


**Week 16 Winner:**  
**Cheryl Kercher**  
**with 10 correct**  
**on first**  
**tiebreaker**

**Week 16 Winning Games**  
1. Detroit  
2. Dallas  
3. Jacksonville  
4. Washington  
5. New England  
6. Philadelphia  
7. Cincinnati  
8. Chicago  
9. NY Giants  
10. Indianapolis  
11. Arizona  
12. Seattle  
Tie Breaker 1 - 45  
Tie Breaker 2 - 59  
Tie Breaker 3 - 33

**1. Detroit vs. Green Bay**  
  
Ask me about the new 2008 cars, trucks and vans or close-out special on all our remaining 2007 models!  
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**DON NESTER**  
CHEVROLET Oldsmobile  
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**2. New England vs. NY Giants**  
  
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**3. Buffalo vs. Philadelphia**  
  
**PROPANE SERVICE**  
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(989) 348-7647


**4. Cincinnati vs. Miami**  
  
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**5. Pittsburgh vs. Baltimore**  
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**6. Dallas vs. Washington**  
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**7. Carolina vs. Tampa Bay**  
  
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**8. Tennessee vs. Indianapolis**  
  
**Spicy Bob's ITALIAN EXPRESS**  
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**9. New Orleans vs. Chicago**  
  
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**10. Jacksonville vs. Houston**  
  
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**11. Seattle vs. Atlanta**  
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**12. Minnesota vs. Denver**  
  
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**Please Note: Advertiser MUST be written in next to team or slip will be VOID!!**  
Winner \_\_\_\_\_ Advertiser \_\_\_\_\_

Game 1 \_\_\_\_\_  
Game 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
Game 3 \_\_\_\_\_  
Game 4 \_\_\_\_\_  
Game 5 \_\_\_\_\_  
Game 6 \_\_\_\_\_  
Game 7 \_\_\_\_\_  
Game 8 \_\_\_\_\_  
Game 9 \_\_\_\_\_  
Game 10 \_\_\_\_\_  
Game 11 \_\_\_\_\_  
Game 12 \_\_\_\_\_



Tiebreaker 1 Game #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Tiebreaker 2 Game #9 \_\_\_\_\_ Tiebreaker 3 Game #12 \_\_\_\_\_

### Avalanche Football Contest Official Rules

(1) Contestants must list the advertiser in which each game is found. Write your prediction for the games played, advertisers and tiebreakers (total points scored by both teams) on entry form. Entry form without advertisers listed will be invalid. The person with the most correct picks wins all the weekly prizes listed. If the tie breakers can not determine a winner, a drawing will be held to select a single winner. (2) One entry per person a week will be accepted. Crawford County Avalanche employees are not eligible. (3) Completed entry forms must be returned to the Avalanche no later than 5 pm Friday before each week's games. Mail slot in our door may be used Wednesday or Thursday night after 5 pm and before 9 am. Mailed entries must be postmarked no later than 5 pm Friday. Mail to Crawford County Avalanche, PO Box 490, Grayling MI 49738. (4) Entries must be on an official entry form as printed in the Avalanche. No purchase necessary to enter. Entry forms available at the Avalanche office. Winner may claim their prizes at the Avalanche office between 9 am and 5 pm weekdays. Identification and a social security number must be presented when claiming prizes.

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## JV, varsity teams fall to Red Devils at East Jordan

■ *East Jordan wins 59-36, 51-16 in JV, varsity girls basketball games on Wednesday*

Grayling High School's varsity and junior varsity girls basketball teams lost to the East Jordan Red Devils in games played at East Jordan last Wednesday.

The Red Devils won the varsity contest 51-16.

Annie Melroy had 5 points and 2 steals. Laura Boylan had 4 points, 5 rebounds, and 8 blocks. Tiffany Davis had 8 rebounds. Ashley Feldhauser and Sam Schreiber each had 2 steals.

"Our defense is very strong," Coach Kelly Sheehan said. "We need to take advantage of our offensive opportunities."

East Jordan won Wednesday night's JV game by a final score of 59-36.

Leading scorers for Grayling included: Naomi Anglemyer (8 points), Jessica Zarnick (8 points), Teresa Schreiber (7 points), and Mackenzie Harwood (5 points).

"We had two bad periods of time, which kept the game out of reach. The first couple of minutes in the first and third quarters allowed them to get a comfortable lead and extend their lead. We had mental and physical breakdowns," Coach Craig Hofman said. "The rest of the game the girls played well. We rebounded much better against a taller team and were more physical on defense. Offensively, we started hitting some outside shots, which

pulled us back into the game in the second quarter. Naomi Anglemyer and Jessica Zarnick had very good games all night."

"We only shot five free throws and made three," Coach Hofman said. "It is nice to see that the shooting drills and other things that we are doing are starting to take some effect. Now the players need to focus and make sure they are doing the correct things at the right time. They need to learn and execute the plays and defenses that we run with more efficiency."

The JV (1-6) and varsity (0-7) girls basketball teams will play at Harrison on Wednesday, Jan. 2. The Vikings will host Harbor Springs on Friday, Jan. 4.

## Second half run wins freshman game for East Jordan, 58-44

■ *9th grade boys basketball team falls to Red Devils, Rayders in recent games*

Grayling High School's freshman boys basketball squad lost 58-44 at East Jordan last Tuesday, following a second half in which the Red Devils outscored the Vikings 33-19.

The score was tied at 25-25 at halftime, but East Jordan pulled away down the stretch.

"I felt this was our best effort since the first game of the season. We started to do some of the things we have been working on in practice and they were successful," Coach LJ Mead

said. "We had a lead until halfway through the third and we did not respond to their run. Toward the end we looked tired and a step slow. We played with seven guys tonight. I am proud of their effort and look forward to improving and growing together as a team."

Jensen Aubry had 11 points, 13 rebounds, and 8 steals for the Vikings. Jake Helsel had 11 points, 6 rebounds, and 3 steals. Ryan Teeple had 8 points, 9 rebounds, and 3 steals. Ethan Lewis had 8 points, 5 rebounds, and 3 steals. Jake Small had 6 points.

On Thursday, Dec. 13, the Vikings lost to the Charlevoix Rayders 64-47 at Grayling

Middle School.

Lewis had 30 points and 4 rebounds for Grayling. Ryan Teeple had 9 points, 5 rebounds, and 2 steals. Helsel had 5 points and 9 rebounds. Aubry had 2 points, 10 rebounds, and 2 steals.

On Monday, Dec. 10, the Vikings fell to the Gaylord Blue Devils 77-46 at Gaylord.

Lewis had 25 points and 5 rebounds. Helsel had 8 points, 2 blocks, and 2 assists. Aubry had 6 points, 9 rebounds, and 5 steals. Small had 5 points and 2 assists.

The Vikings (1-4) will host the Elk Rapids Elks at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 3, at Grayling Middle School.

## LEGAL ACTION

### NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Denise K. Talbot, a married woman and Robert Talbot, her husband, original mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns. Mortgage, dated July 28, 2004, and recorded on August 3, 2004 in Liber 670 on Page 754, in Crawford county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Seventy-Two Thousand Four Hundred Six And 81/100 Dollars (\$72,406.81), including interest at 7.125% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Crawford County, at 10:00 AM, on January 30, 2008.

Said premises are situated in Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: Lots 30, 31, 32 and 33, Block 4, Porgage Lake Park, according to the plat thereof, as recoded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 17, Craford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 27, 2007  
 For more information, please call:  
 FC X 248.593.1302  
 Trott & Trott, P.C.  
 Attorneys For Servicer  
 31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
 Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
 File #178506F01

-27-3-10-17

### NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT.

ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Zachary S. Russell, a married man by Aprille N. Russell attorney in fact, husband and wife, original mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns. Mortgage, dated August 17, 2006, and recorded on August 24, 2006 in Liber 682 on Page 865, in Crawford county records, Michigan, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Wells Fargo Bank, NA as assignee, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred Five And 15/100 Dollars (\$119,505.15), including interest at 7.375% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Crawford County, at 10:00 AM, on January 30, 2008.

Said premises are situated in City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 17, Grayling Manor, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 3 of Plats, Page 10, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 27, 2007  
 For more information, please call:  
 FC D 248.593.1309  
 Trott & Trott, P.C.  
 Attorneys For Servicer  
 31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
 Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
 File #178515F01

-27-3-10-17

### MORTGAGE SALE

AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NOTIFY US AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Ronald J. Landry and Melissa G. Landry, husband and wife, Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., (MERS), Mortgagee, dated the 19th day

of August, 2005 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, for The County of Crawford and State of Michigan, on the 3rd day of October, 2005 in Liber 677 of Crawford County Records, page 752, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, the sum of One Hundred eleven Thousand Nine Hundred Forty Three & 99/100, (\$11,893.99), and no suit or proceeding at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt secured by said mortgage or any part thereof. Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of January, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock am Local Time, said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the front door to the County Bldg. in Grayling MI (that being the building where the Circuit Court for the County of Crawford is held), of the premises described in said mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, as aforesaid on said mortgage, with interest thereon at 9.9500% per annum and all legal costs, charges, and expenses, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sum or sums which may be paid by the undersigned, necessary to protect its interest in the premises. Which said premises are described as follows: All that certain piece or parcel of land, including any and all structures, and homes, manufactured or otherwise, located thereon, situated in the Township of Grayling, County of Crawford, State of Michigan, and described as follows, to wit:

The Southeast 1 / 4 of the Northeast 1 / 4 of the Southwest 1 / 4 of Section 34, T27N, R2W, Commonly known as Parcel G. Together with mutual easements existing between owners in the SE 1 / 4 of the NW 1 / 4 and the SE 1 / 4 of the SW 1 / 4 and the NE 1 / 4 of the SW 1 / 4 of Said section 24, T27N, R2W, over and across their respective parcels as recorded in Liber 104, Pages 450-454, Crawford County Schools

During the twelve (12) months immediately following the sale, the property may be redeemed, except that in the event that the property is determined to be abandoned pursuant to MCLA 600.3241a, the property may be redeemed during 30 days immediately following the sale.

Dated: 12/27/2007  
 Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., (MERS)  
 Mortgagee

FABRIZIO & BROOK, P.C.  
 Attorney for Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., (MERS)  
 888 W. Big Beaver, Suite 1470  
 Troy, MI 48064  
 248-362-2600

-27-3-10-17



# LEGAL ACTION

## STATE OF MICHIGAN IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF CRAWFORD

STEPHEN J. HAIGHT AND  
TAMMY MARIE HAIGHT

PLAINTIFFS,  
VS  
FILE NO. 07 7352 CK (M)

DAWN MARIE MITCHELL;  
STATE OF MICHIGAN - DEPART-  
MENT OF TREASURY; AND CHASE  
BANKCARD SERVICES, INC.

DEFENDANT

David R. Sabin P19822  
Attorney for Plaintiffs  
115 E. Michigan Avenue  
Grayling, MI 49738  
989-348-5588

Dawn Marie Mitchell  
Defendant  
6356 Hartwick Pines Road  
Grayling, MI 49738

Bradley K. Morton  
Assistant Attorney General  
Revenue & Collections Division  
Attorney for State of Michigan  
Department of Treasury  
P.O. Box 30754  
Lansing, MI 48909  
517-373-3203

Chase Bankcard Services, Inc.  
Defendant  
The Corporation Company  
30600 Telegraph Road  
Bingham Farms, MI 48025

### AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS GIVEN, that by virtue of a Foreclosure Judgement filed November 8, 2007, directing the sale of the following described property or so much as may be necessary to raise the amount determined to be due to Plaintiffs, a sale shall be made to the highest bidder at the front door of the Crawford County Courthouse, 200 West Michigan Avenue, Grayling, Michigan. The sale shall be made after the Crawford County Clerk has given public notice of the time and place for said sale as required by Michigan statute and according to the course and practice of this Court. The sale of said property shall be made by or under the direction of the Crawford County Clerk on **THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 2008 AT 10:00 A.M.**

Commencing at the SW corner of the N 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of Section 35, T28N, R13W, thence North 475.8 feet to the P.O.B.; thence continuing North 220 feet; thence S 89 degrees 43' East 285 feet; thence South 220 feet; thence N 89 degrees 43' West 285 feet to the P.O.B. This being part of the N 1/2 of the SW 1/4 of Section 35, T28N, R3W, Commonly known as Shady Acres Party Store, Maple Forest Township, Crawford County, Michigan.

Date: 11/30/07

Sandra Moore  
Clerk of the Court  
-6-13-20-27-3-10

## NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE

**THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW.**

ATTENTION POTENTIAL PURCHASERS AT FORECLOSURE SALE: In the case of resolution prior to or simultaneously with the aforementioned foreclosure sale, Green Tree Servicing LLC (f/k/a Conesco Finance Servicing Corp.) may rescind this sale at any time prior to the end of the redemption period. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited to the return of your bid amount tendered at the sale, plus interest.

Default having occurred in the conditions of a certain Mortgage made by George J. Wilkinson and Irene J. Wilkinson, husband and wife, to Green Tree Servicing LLC (f/k/a Conesco Finance Servicing Corp.), dated August 24, 2000, and recorded in the Office of the Register of Deeds for the County of Crawford in the State of Michigan on September 13, 2000, in Liber 517, Page(s) 244, et. seq., on which Mortgage there is claimed to be due as of the date of this Notice the sum of \$28,668.88, which amount may or may not be the entire indebtedness owed by George J. Wilkinson and Irene J. Wilkinson, husband and wife, to Green Tree Servicing LLC (f/k/a Conesco Finance Servicing Corp.), together with interest at 9.00 percent per annum.

**NOW THEREFORE**, Notice is hereby given that the power of sale contained in said Mortgage has become operative and that pursuant to that power of sale and MCL 600.3201 et. seq., on January 30, 2008 at 10:00 a.m., in the Lobby of the Courthouse in Grayling, Michigan, that being the place for holding the Circuit Court and/or for conducting such foreclosure sales for the County of Crawford, there will be offered at public sale, the premises, or some part thereof, described in said Mortgage as follows, to-wit: SITUATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF

BEAVER CREEK, COUNTY OF CRAWFORD, STATE OF MICHIGAN, IS DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

PART OF NORTH 3/4 OF NORTH-EAST 1/4 OF SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 18, TOWN 25 NORTH, RANGE 3 WEST, BEAVER CREEK, CRAWFORD, MICHIGAN, COMMENCING AT THE SOUTH 1/4 CORNER OF SOUTH 1/4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 18; THENCE NORTH 0 DEGREES 25' WEST (ALONG THE NORTH AND SOUTH 1/4 LINE), 1855.89 FEET TO POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 35 DEGREES 45' WEST (ALONG THE NORTH-WESTERLY RIGHT-OF-WAY OF OLD US 27), 266.20 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 88 DEGREES 10' 40" WEST, 1161.25; THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 21' 30" WEST (ALONG THE WEST 1/8 LINE), 324.97 FEET; THENCE NORTH 88 DEGREES 10' 50" EAST, 1318.33 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 0 DEGREES 25' EAST (ALONG THE NORTH AND SOUTH 1/4 LINE), 113.85 FEET TO POINT OF BEGINNING.

The redemption period shall be one (1) year from the date of sale unless the property is found to be abandoned pursuant to MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be the later of thirty (30) days from the date of sale or fifteen (15) days from the date the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(b) was posted and mailed.

BRANDT, FISHER, ALWARD &  
ROY, P.C.

Green Tree Servicing LLC (f/k/a  
Conesco Finance Servicing Corp.)

By: \_\_\_\_\_ DON-  
ALD A. BRANDT (P30183) Attorneys  
for Mortgagee  
1241 E. Eighth Street, P.O. Box 5817  
Traverse City, Michigan 49696-5817  
(231) 941-9660

Dated: December 19, 2007

-27-3-10-17-24

## MORTGAGE SALE

AS A DEBT COLLECTOR, WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NOTIFY US AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default having been made in the terms and conditions of a certain mortgage made by Edward C. Robinson II and Barbara M. Robinson, husband and wife, Mortgagees, to Green Tree Financial Servicing Corporation nka Green Tree Servicing, LLC, Mortgagee, dated the 6th day of October, 1997 and recorded in the office of the Register of Deeds, for The County of Crawford and State of Michigan, on the 8th day of October, 1997 in Liber 439 of Crawford County Records, page 409, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due, at the date of this notice, the sum of Fifty Three Thousand Three Hundred Eleven & 81/100 (\$53,311.81), and no suit or proceeding at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt secured by said mortgage or any part thereof. Now, therefore, by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, and pursuant to statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that on the 23rd day of January, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock am Local Time, said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the front door to the County Bldg. in Grayling MI (that being the building where the Circuit Court for the County of Crawford is held), of the premises described in said mortgage, or so much thereof as may be necessary to pay the amount due, as aforesaid on said mortgage, with interest thereon at 10.25% per annum and all legal costs, charges, and expenses, including the attorney fees allowed by law, and also any sum or sums which may be paid by the undersigned, necessary to protect its interest in the premises. Which said premises are described as follows: All that certain piece or parcel of land, including any and all structures, and homes, manufactured or otherwise, located thereon, situated in the Township of Grayling, County of Crawford, State of Michigan, and described as follows, to-wit:

A parcel of land located in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 26, Town 27 North, Range 2 West, being more fully described as follows: the Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 26, Township of Grayling, County of Crawford, State of Michigan, and described as follows, to-wit:

During the six (6) months immediately following the sale, the property may be redeemed, except that in the event that the property is determined to be abandoned pursuant to MCL 600.3241a, the property may be redeemed during 30 days immediately following the sale.

Dated: 12/20/2007  
Green Tree Servicing, LLC,  
Mortgagee

-20-27-3-10

## MORTGAGE SALE

PETER M. SCHNEIDERMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C., IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT, ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT (248)539-7400 IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by GARY M. VICAN, SINGLE MAN, AS HIS SOLE AND SEPARATE PROPERTY, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns, Mortgagee, dated February 7, 2005, and recorded on February 23, 2005, in Liber 673, on Page 878, Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Fifteen Thousand

Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars and Sixty-Nine Cents (\$115,950.69), including interest at 5.750% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan, at 10:00 AM o'clock, on January 23, 2008

Said premises are situated in Crawford County, Michigan and described as: LOTS 491 AND 492, WARBLER'S HIDEAWAY SUBDIVISION NO. 4, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 2, PAGE 24 OF PLATS, CRAWFORD COUNTY RECORDS.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 12, 2007

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns, Mortgagee/Assignee

Peter M. Schneiderman & Associates, P.C.  
23100 Providence Drive, Suite 450  
Southfield, MI 48075

20-27-3-10

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

**THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.**

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Janet L. Berry, and Donald S. Berry, Wife and Husband, original mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated October 23, 2006, and recorded on November 3, 2006 in Liber 684 on Page 25, in Crawford county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Eighty-Six Thousand Twenty And 38/100 Dollars (\$86,020.38), including interest at 6.875% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Crawford County, at 10:00 AM, on January 23, 2008.

Said premises are situated in Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: The East 12 rods of the West 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 1, Town 26 North, Range 3 West.

The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 20, 2007

For more information, please call:  
FC X 248.593.1302  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
File #148070F02

-20-27-3-10

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

**THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.**

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Kathleen R Mead single woman, original mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated February 17, 2006, and recorded on February 28, 2006 in Liber 679 on Page 983, in Crawford county records, Michigan, and assigned by said Mortgagee to Wells Fargo Bank, NA as assignee, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the

sum of One Hundred Seven Thousand Five Hundred Fifty And 86/100 Dollars (\$107,550.86), including interest at 6.5% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Crawford County, at 10:00 AM, on January 23, 2008.

Said premises are situated in City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 5 North park Subdivision, according to the plat thereof, as recorded in Liber 1 of plats, page 74, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 20, 2007

For more information, please call:  
FC D 248.593.1309  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
File #178103F01

-20-27-3-10

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

**THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.**

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Floyd P. Farnsworth, II and Erika L. Farnsworth, husband and wife, to Option One Mortgage Corporation, a California Corporation, Mortgagee, dated May 23, 2007 and recorded May 31, 2007 in Liber 687, Page 98, Crawford County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as Trustee for the Certificateholders of Soundview Home Loan Trust 2007-OPT3, Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-OPT3 by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Eighty-Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Five and 75/100 Dollars (\$187,705.75) including interest at 9.45% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the front door of the County Building in Grayling in Crawford County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on JANUARY 9, 2008.

Said premises are located in the Township of Maple Forest, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

Parcel F: Part of the North one-half of the Southeast one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter, Section 7, Town 28 North, Range 3 West, described as: Commencing at the Southeast corner of Section 7; thence 00 Degrees 00 Minutes 40 Seconds East on Section line 694.70 Feet for the point of beginning; thence 00 Degrees 00 Minutes 40 Seconds East 347.35 Feet; thence South 88 Degrees 53 Minutes 49 Seconds West 1301.26 Feet to the Easterly line of the Highway I-75; thence Southwesterly along the arc of 5614.65 Foot radius curve to the Left 20.34 Feet, the long chord of which bears South 16 Degrees 37 Minutes West 20.34 Feet, thence South 00 Degrees 36 Minutes 45 Seconds East 319.80 Feet; thence North 89 Degrees 15 Minutes 20 Seconds East 1303.6 Feet to the point of beginning; being part of the Southeast one-quarter of the Southeast one-quarter of Section 7, Town 28 North, Range 3 West, Maple Forest Township, Crawford County, Michigan.

The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

Dated: December 6, 2007  
Orlans Associates, P.C.  
Attorneys for Servicer  
P.O. Box 5041  
Troy, MI 48007-5041  
(248) 457-1000 File No. 221.6364

-6-13-20-27

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

**THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.**

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mort-

gage made by Elmer Curns, Jr., a single man, to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., Mortgagee, dated December 9, 2005 and recorded December 14, 2005 in Liber 678, Page 986, Crawford County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Chase Home Finance LLC, by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Two Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Six and 67/100 Dollars (\$102,456.67) including interest at 6.75% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the front door of the County Building in Grayling in Crawford County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on JANUARY 9, 2008.

Said premises are located in the Township of Frederic, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: Parcel A: Part of the Northwest one-quarter of the Northwest one-quarter of Section 2, Town 27 North, Range 4 West, described as: Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Section 2; thence North 89 Degrees 25 Minutes 12 Seconds East, along the North Section line, 969.18 feet (Recorded as 967.55 feet) to the point of beginning; thence continuing along said North 89 Degrees 25 Minutes 12 Seconds East, 352.87 feet (Recorded as 353.65 feet) to the West one-eighth of said Section; thence along said West one-eighth line, South 01 Degrees 03 Minutes 55 Seconds West, 46.19 feet to the Southerly right of way of May Lake Road; thence continuing South 01 Degrees 03 Minutes 55 Seconds West, 333.64 feet; thence North 8 Degrees 58 Minutes 01 Seconds West, 176.11 feet to the Easterly right of way of Chicksaw Trail; thence 185.92 feet along said Easterly right of way of Chicksaw Trail on the arc of a 238.38 foot radius curve to the left, said curve having a chord of North 42 Degrees 24 Minutes 10 Seconds West 181.25 feet; thence 82.05 feet along said Easterly right of way on the arc of a 75.00 foot radius curve to the right, said curve having a long chord of North 32 Degrees 59 Minutes 35 Seconds West, 78.02 feet; thence along said Easterly right of way North 01 Degrees 39 Minutes 07 Seconds West, 124.91 feet to the Southerly right of way of May Lake Road; thence continuing North 01 Degrees 39 Minutes 07 Seconds West, 48.91 feet to the North line of said Section 2 and the point of beginning. Subject to the right of way of May Lake Road over the Northerly portion thereof. Subject to and together with a 24 foot wide ingress and egress easement lying 12 feet on each side of, parallel with, and adjacent to a centerline described as: Commencing at the Northwest corner of Section 2, Town 27 North, Range 4 West, Frederic Township, Crawford County, Michigan; thence North 89 Degrees 25 Minutes 12 Seconds East, along the North line of said Section, 969.17 feet to the East line of Chicksaw Trail as shown on the Plat of, Indian Woods, as Recorded in Liber 3 of Plats, Page 26, Crawford County Records; thence South 01 Degrees 39 Minutes 07 Seconds East, along the East line of Chicksaw Trail, 170.59 feet to the point of beginning of centerline of said 24 foot easement; thence 73.43 feet along the arc of a curve to the left, said curve having a radius of 200.00 feet, delta angle of 21 Degrees 02 Minutes 11 Seconds and a chord bearing and distance of South 44 Degrees 08 Minutes 07 Seconds East 73.02 feet; thence 104.76 feet along the arc of a reverse curve to the right, said curve having a radius of 253.22 feet, delta angle of 23 Degrees 42 Minutes 12 Seconds and a chord bearing and distance of South 42 Degrees 48 Minutes 06 Seconds East 104.01 feet to a point on the East line of Chicksaw Trail and the point of ending of centerline of said 24 foot easement the side lines of the described 24 foot wide easement are to be lengthened or shortened as necessary to commence and terminate on the East line of the platted Chicksaw Trail.

Dated: December 17, 2007  
JUÁREZ & JUÁREZ, P.C., Attorneys for Mortgagee  
132 South Eighth, West Branch, MI 48661 (989) 345-0601

-27-3-10-17

## MORTGAGE SALE

**THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.**

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Ronald G. Edlund and Paula R. Edlund, his wife, to Citizens Bank, Mortgagee, dated March 23, 2001 and recorded April 16, 2001 in Liber 533, Page 515, Crawford County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Chase Home Finance LLC by assignment. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Ninety-Five Thousand Two Hundred Nine and 80/100 Dollars (\$95,209.80) including interest at 7.125% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the front door of the County Building in Grayling in Crawford County, Michigan at 10:00 a.m. on JANUARY 30, 2008.

Said premises are located in the Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as:

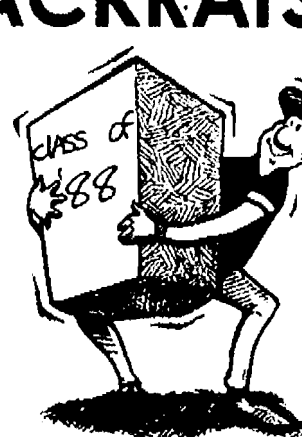
South 80 Feet of Lot 21 and the West 5 Feet of the South 80 Feet of Lot 22, Block 18, 6th Addition to Portage Lake Park and the South 80 Feet of Lots 23, 24, 25 and the South 80 Feet of the East 20 Feet of Lot 22 of Block 18 of Portage Lake Park, 6th Addition. Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan.

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages, if any, are limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

Dated: December 27, 2007  
Orlans Associates, P.C.  
Attorneys for Servicer  
P.O. Box 5041  
Troy, MI 48007-5041  
(248) 457-1000 File No. 310.2227


-27-3-10-17

## PACKRATS



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[www.crawfordcountyavalanche.com](http://www.crawfordcountyavalanche.com)



# LEGAL ACTION

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Michele Moshier, A Single Woman, original mortgagor(s), to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., Mortgagee, dated May 25, 2007, and recorded on May 29, 2007 in Liber 687 on Page 61, in Crawford county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Eleven Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-Nine And 80/100 Dollars (\$111,849.80), including interest at 6.75% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Crawford County, at 10:00 AM, on January 9, 2008.

Said premises are situated in City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: Lot 7, Block 19, of Original Plat of the Village (now City) of Grayling, according to the recorded plat thereof as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 02, Crawford County Records

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 6, 2007  
For more information, please call:  
FC S 248.593.1304  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
File #174898F01

-6-13-20-27

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

PETER M. SCHNEIDERMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.C., IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT (248)539-7400 IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by KENNETH M. SMITH, A SINGLE MAN, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns. Mortgagee, dated August 10, 2005, and recorded on August 19, 2005, in Liber 676, on Page 910, Crawford County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Fifty-Three Thousand Two Hundred Forty Dollars and Thirty-Nine Cents (\$153,240.39), including interest at 6.000% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue, at the front door of the County Building in Grayling, Michigan, at 10:00 AM o'clock, on January 16, 2008

Said premises are situated in Crawford County, Michigan and described as: PARCEL "D" - PART OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTHWEST 1/4 OF SECTION 2, TOWNSHIP 27 NORTH, RANGE 4 WEST, FREDERIC TOWNSHIP, CRAWFORD COUNTY, MICHIGAN; COMMENCING AT THE SOUTH 1/4 CORNER OF SAID SECTION 2; THENCE NORTH 1 DEGREE 11 MINUTES 45 SECONDS EAST (ALONG THE NORTH AND SOUTH 1/4 LINE) 1757.6 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE SOUTH 89 DEGREES 54 MINUTES WEST, 1807.43 FEET TO THE LEFT BANK OF THE AUSABLE RIVER; THENCE NORTH 31 DEGREES 26 MINUTES EAST (ALONG SAID BANK) 154.9 FEET; THENCE NORTH 12 DEGREES 54 MINUTES WEST (ALONG SAID BANK), 116.0 FEET; THENCE NORTH 89 DEGREES 54 MINUTES EAST, 1757.68 FEET TO THE NORTH AND SOUTH 1/4 LINE; THENCE SOUTH 1 DEGREE 11 MINUTES 45 SECONDS WEST 245 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. THIS PARCEL EXTENDS TO THE WATERS EDGE OF THE AUSABLE RIVER.

The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with 1948CL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 5, 2007  
Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender's successors and assigns. Mortgagee/Assignee

Peter M. Schneiderman & Associates, P.C.  
23100 Providence Drive, Suite 450  
Southfield, MI 480755  
-13-20-27-3

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Eric J. Felix and Kelly V. Felix, husband and wife as joint tenants, original mortgagor(s), to Long Beach Mortgage Company, Mortgagee, dated November 23, 2004, and recorded on December 6, 2004 in Liber 672 on Page 757, in Crawford county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Nine Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-Five And 58/100 Dollars (\$69,375.58), including interest at 8.25% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public vendue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Crawford County, at 10:00 AM, on January 16, 2008.

Said premises are situated in Township of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: Commencing at the North 1/4 corner of Section 14, Town 26 North, Range 2 West; thence South 0 Degrees 46 Minutes West, 660.54 feet; thence North 89 Degrees 34 Minutes West, 656 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence continuing West 204.02 feet; thence South 0 Degrees 48 Minutes 49 Seconds West, 813.45 feet to the center of Wakeley Bridge Road; thence North 65 Degrees 42 Minutes West, 226.25 feet; thence North 1 Degree 32 Minutes 30 Seconds East, 715.65 feet to the Point of Beginning

The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 13, 2007  
For more information, please call:  
FC R 248.593.1305  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
File #176655F01

-13-20-27-3

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

MORTGAGE SALE: Default having been made in the conditions of a certain Mortgage made by APRIL M. BALLOR, a/k/a April May Contreras and April Contreras- Gugin and JOSEPH R. CONTRERAS, of 303 North Arthur Street, Grayling, MI 49738-8631, to THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, acting through the Farmers Home Administration (now known as Rural Development), United States Department of Agriculture, with its District Office being located at 240 Wright Street, West Branch, Michigan, 48661, the Mortgagee, such Mortgage being dated April 1, 1993, and recorded April 1, 1993, in Liber 357 in Crawford County Records on Pages 15-18, and a certain Mortgage made by Robert W. Starks and Michelle A. Starks, husband and wife, to the United States of America, acting through the Farmers Home Administration (now known as Rural Development), United States Department of Agriculture, being dated September 14, 1988, and recorded September 14, 1988, in Liber 286 in Crawford County Records on Pages 269-272, such Mortgage assumed by April M. Ballor and Joseph R. Contreras, such Mortgages being given to secure Promissory Notes payable to the Government, and by reason of such default the Mortgagee elects to declare the entire unpaid amount of such Mortgages due and payable forthwith, on which Mortgages there is claimed to be due at the date of this notice, for principal and interest, the sum of SIXTY-FIVE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE AND 68/100 (\$65,535.68) DOLLARS, and no proceedings having been instituted at law or equity to recover the debt now remaining secured by said Mortgages, or any part thereof, whereby the power of sale contained in said Mortgages have become operative;

Now, Therefore, Notice is Hereby Given that by virtue of the power of sale contained in said Mortgages and in pursuance of the statute of the State of Michigan in such case made and provided, the said Mortgages will be foreclosed by a sale of the premises therein described, or so much thereof as may be necessary, at public auction, to the highest bidder, at the Sheriff's Department at 200 West Michigan Avenue in the City of Grayling, County of Crawford, Michigan, that being the place of holding the Circuit Court in and for said County, on Wednesday, the 23rd day of January, 2008 at 10:00 a.m., local time, and said premises will be sold to pay the amount due as aforesaid on the Mortgages together with 7.75% interest, legal costs, attorneys' fees and also any taxes and insurance that said Mortgagee does pay on or prior to the date of said sale; which said premises described in said Mortgages are situated in the Township of Grayling, County of Crawford and State of Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 2 and the East 78.95 feet of Lot 4, Clough's Highland Acres, according to the plat thereof as recorded in Liber 1 of Plats, Page 65, Crawford County Records.

During the six (6) months immediately following the sale, the property may be redeemed unless the property is abandoned, in which case the redemption shall be thirty (30) days from the date of sale.

For further information with regard to this foreclosure, contact USDA - Rural Development, 1501 Cass Street, Suite A, Traverse City, Michigan, 49684, telephone (231) 941-0951.

Dated: December 12, 2007  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, acting through the Farmers Home Administration (now Rural Development), United States Department of Agriculture, Mortgagee

Michael I. Conlon (P43954)  
Running, Wise, Ford, P.L.C.  
326 E. State Street, P.O. Box 686  
Traverse City, MI 49685-0686

-27-3-10-17

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE BY SALE

Default has been made in the conditions of a certain Mortgage made on the date of 13th day of January, 2006 by Denise Marie Elekonich and Jerry Lee Elekonich, husband and wife of 2346 Peaceful Vista, Grayling, Michigan 49738 upon which note there is claimed to be due and unpaid at the date of this Notice the sum of One Hundred Eighteen Thousand Eight Hundred and 74/100 (\$118,800.74) Dollars, plus accrued interest at the rate of 7 percent, plus late

fees and other allowable costs, including reasonable attorney fees, real property taxes and insurance accruing from July 13, 2007.

Further, no suit or proceeding at law or in equity having been instituted to recover the debt or any part of the debt, secured by said mortgage and the power of sale being contained in said mortgage having become operative by reason of such default;

NOW THEREFORE, notice is hereby given that on February 1, 2008 at 10:00 in the forenoon at the main front door of the Crawford County Courthouse, Grayling, Michigan, that being the place for holding the Circuit Court for said County, there will be offered for sale and sold to the highest bidder at public sale, for the purpose of satisfying the amounts due and unpaid on said promissory note with interest thereon at the rate of 7 percent, together with legal costs and charges of sale, provided by law and in said promissory note and mortgage. The land and the premises described in said mortgage is located in the State of Michigan, County of Crawford, Township of Grayling and further described as follows:

Lot 7, Shangri-La Subdivision recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, Pages 3 & 4, Crawford County Records.

The redemption period shall be six months from the date of sale. The property may be redeemed by paying the amount bid at the sale, plus interest at the rate of 7 percent, and any fees, taxes or other unpaid encumbrances on the property from the date of the sale.

This notice is an attempt to collect a debt.

Richard J. Jaskowski (P47123)  
Attorney For Mortgagee

2373 S. I-75 Business Loop  
PO Drawer 665  
Grayling, MI 49738  
(989)348-5232  
27-3-10-17-24-31

## NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. PLEASE CONTACT OUR OFFICE AT THE NUMBER BELOW IF YOU ARE IN ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.

ATTN PURCHASERS: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest.

MORTGAGE SALE - Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Edward J. Baudoux and Tammy L. Baudoux, husband and wife, original mortgagor(s), to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns, Mortgagee, dated January 19, 2006, and recorded on January 26, 2006 in Liber 679 on Page 614, in Crawford county records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Thirty Thousand Twenty-Two And 84/100 Dollars (\$130,022.84), including interest at 9.3% per annum.

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some

part of them, at public vendue, at the place of holding the circuit court within Crawford County, at 10:00 AM, on January 30, 2008.

Said premises are situated in City of Grayling, Crawford County, Michigan, and are described as: The East 1/2 of the West 1/2 of the East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 15, Township 26 North, Range 3 West, except part of the Northwest 1/4 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 15, Town 26 North, Range 3 West, Grayling Township, Crawford County, Michigan described as beginning at a point distant 821.42 feet North 89 degrees 29 minutes East, along the North Section line and 350.00 feet South 01 degrees 15 minutes 23 seconds East, from the Northwest corner of said Section 15 and extending thence South 88 degrees 44 minutes 37 seconds East, 4.00 feet; thence South 01 degrees 15 minutes 23 seconds West, 40.00; thence North 88 degrees 44 minutes 37 seconds West, 4.00 feet; thence North 01 degrees 15 minutes 23 seconds East, 40.00 feet to the Point of Beginning. Including all building and improvements on the property and all rights of the owner to streets, highways, alleys, driveways, easements and rights of way relating to the property.

The redemption period shall be 12 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

Dated: December 27, 2007  
For more information, please call:  
FC H 248.593.1300  
Trott & Trott, P.C.  
Attorneys For Servicer  
31440 Northwestern Highway, Suite 200  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48334-2525  
File #177936F01

-27-3-10-17

City of Grayling  
CRAWFORD COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
ORDINANCE NO. 2007 - 04  
AN ORDINANCE TO CONTROL AND REGULATE PUBLIC STREETS AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY WITHIN THE CITY OF GRAYLING

THE CITY OF GRAYLING HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 1. CONTROL AND REGULATION

(a) Purpose.

The purpose of this section is to ensure that uses of public rights-of-way within the City of Grayling are regulated to the full extent permitted by law in order to protect public health, safety and welfare and to exercise all reasonable control of City highways, streets, alleys, and rights-of-way granted by the Michigan Constitution of 1963 and laws of the State of Michigan.

(b) Definitions.

The terms used in this section shall have the following meanings:

(1) City means the City of Grayling.

(2) Franchise Agreement means an agreement entered into between the City and a service provider, to use and occupy public rights-of-way for the delivery of specific services within the City, subject to applicable laws and the police powers of the City.

(3) Permit means a nonexclusive permit issued by the City to a service provider to use the public rights-of-way in the City.

(4) Public right-of-way means the area on, below, or above public roadway, highway, street, alley, sidewalk, easement or thoroughfare. Public right-of-way does not mean a federal, state, or private right-of-way.

(c) Control Reserved to City.

The City shall exercise all control and authority over public rights-of-way as is permitted by law, including without limitation, Section 29 of Article 7 of the Michigan Constitution of 1963, the City Home Rule Act, being Public Act 279 of 1909, as amended, and the Charter of the City of Grayling. The City shall exercise such control and authority concurrently with federal and/or state authorities of competent jurisdiction, up to the point at which City authority is preempted by manifest and complete state and/or federal occupation of the field of regulation.

(d) Effect of Granting Permits or Franchises.

The granting of permits and/or entering franchise agreements as required by state and/or federal law does not affect or diminish the right of the City, in the exercise of its police powers, to enact and enforce ordinances intended to promote the safety, welfare, and convenience of the public in the use of its public right-of-way. Approval of a permit or franchise agreement does not waive or limit such City control or authority over its public rights-of-way or prevent the City from issuing and enforcing additional regulations pertaining to access to, and ongoing use of, public right-of-way.

SECTION 2. SEVERABILITY.

If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this ordinance is, for any reason, held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion thereof.

SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately upon publication of notice of adoption.

The foregoing Ordinance was offered by Tom Wellman, supported by Roger Moshier, the vote being as follows:

YEAS: Larry Akers, Kim McClain, Cathy McGuire, Roger Moshier, Tom Wellman

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

ORDINANCE DECLARED ADOPTED.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that this is a true copy of an ordinance adopted by the City of Grayling City Council at a regular meeting held on December 10, 2007, pursuant to the required statutory procedures.

December 11, 2007  
Date

Michele A. Moshier, City Clerk

## Notice of Public Hearing

The Crawford County Road Commission in conjunction with the Crawford County Transit Authority and the City of Grayling will be holding a Public Hearing during the regular scheduled Road Commission Board meeting, Wednesday, December 26, 2007 @ 10:00 a.m.

Meeting location shall be at the Crawford County Road Commission office in Grayling office located at 500 Huron Street, P.O. Box 648, Grayling, MI 49738-00648.

Purpose for the public hearing will be to address and approve the selection of proposed projects eligible for TEA 21 funding.

Upon completion the Board will present the recommended proposed projects to the Regional Task Force for Consideration.

Additional information may be obtained from the Road Commission Office. Road Commission phone (989) 348-2281 or fax (989) 348-6933.

Prepared for the Crawford County Road Commission, Crawford County Transit Authority and the City of Grayling.

Cc  
Crawford County Transit Authority  
City of Grayling  
Townships of Crawford County  
Crawford County Board of Commissioners



# FEATURES

## A LOOK AT OUR PAST FROM THE PAGES OF THE AVALANCHE



**December 27, 1984** - The candy cane decoration, on the door of Tom St. Germain's room at the Grayling Middle School, won first place in the door Christmas decoration competition. Cheryl Barber (left) and Jannice LaDuke (right) helped make the decoration.

### 23 Years Ago December 27, 1984

One hundred and fifty-five patients were treated in the Mercy Care Clinic at Mercy Hospital during the first month of operations, according to Mary Allen, R.N., nursing coordinator for emergency services. She said initially the hospital administration had expected to see a decline in the emergency room as less serious patients were seen in the clinic. "This has not been the case," said Allen. "Emergency room visits were up eight visits over the

same period one year ago."

Nine girls met with their Pageant Moms on Sunday evening, Dec. 16, to begin preparations for the Miss Grayling Pageant to be held Jan. 26. Orientation was the goal of the meeting, to get acquainted with each girl's individual pageant mom and to plan the schedule of events. The nine girls seeking the title are Michelle Barber, Felicia Galvani, Kris Laudslager, Jami Shepler, Vicki Luther, Vicki Kea, Leann Lovell, Kim Kinsora and Barb Fitzgerald.

Three Grayling starters fouled out in Friday's home basketball game against Boyne City as the Vikings lost 80-72. Brad Naghtin and Mick Lovely had three fouls in the first quarter and four in the first half. In the fourth quarter, Lovely, Naghtin and Jeff Branch picked up their fifth personals.

### 46 Years Ago December 28, 1961

The Grayling High School Vikings basketball team swept to a conference record of three wins against one loss as the season halted for the holiday season. The green and white picked up the record by stopping an East Jordan Red Devil team by a score of 49 to 38.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil Rochette left on Dec. 22 to make their home in Jacksonville, Fla. Emil sold his share of the service station to his partner, who is also his brother, Leon Rochette.

Celebrate New Year's at Smiggen's Digger's, with dancing, noisemakers and favors from 8 p.m. Dec. 31 until 4 a.m. Jan. 1.

The Frederic High Eagles will take part in the 7th annual Gaylord Saint Mary's holiday basketball tournament this week. Besides Frederic and the host team, Hannah St. Mary's, AuGres, Buckley, Wolverine, Vanderbilt and Hillman are entered.

### 69 Years Ago December 29, 1938

The big 65-foot ski jump at the Grayling Winter Park is no more. The blizzard that struck the park

Tuesday was more than it could endure and it came crashing down. The winter park officials are not feeling too bad about it, as it was slated for removal next summer to make room for a larger and more modern one. The new jump will be 90 feet high, which is 25 feet higher than the one that just came down.

Hardly had the last Christmas carol been sung, and visitors from out of town started their journeys, before a rip roaring blizzard broke loose in this part of the state. Heavy snows, accompanied by high winds and cold, sent everyone hustling to replenish the smoldering yule log. The wind whipped the falling snow and soon there were drifts as much as six feet in depth.

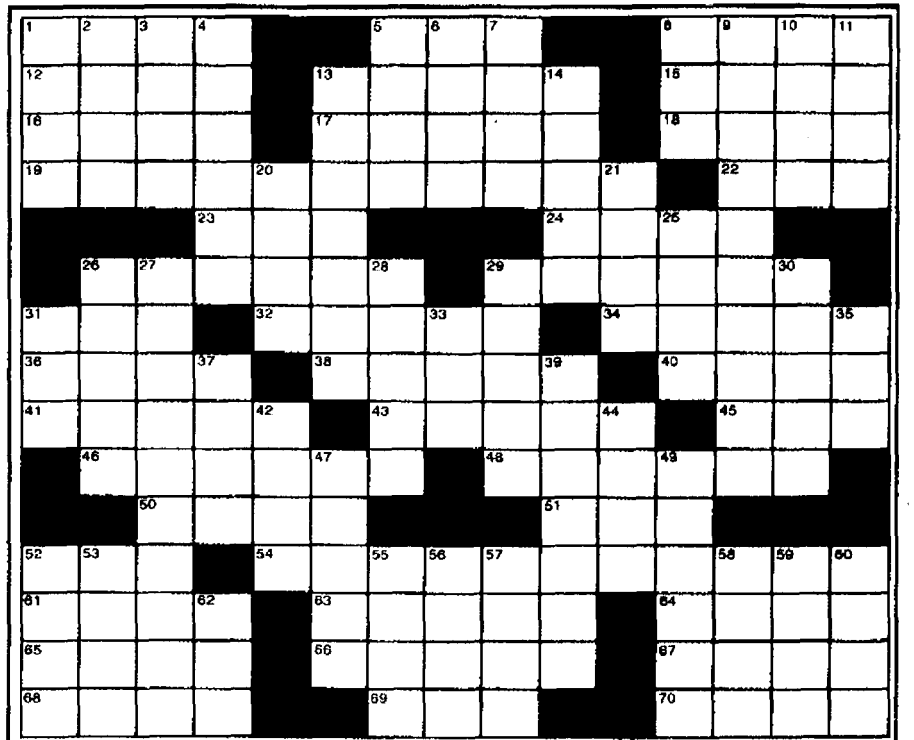
### 92 Years Ago December 30, 1915

John Hodge and Clyde King will open their new cafe, in the new Victor Salling building on Michigan Avenue, by serving a banquet for the fourth annual ball of the Loyal Order of Moose on New Year's night.

Emil Hanson has resigned his position as clerk of the trainmaster's division of the M.C.R.R. and accepted a position as chief clerk of the Detroit-Jackson and Detroit Bay City lines.

Floyd McClain spent Christmas here with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose McClain. He has a good position in Detroit as a salesman in the J.L. Hudson store.

## CROSSWORD



- Across
- Movie starring Lee Remick and Gregory Peck.
  - Experiencing sorrow.
  - Acronym for Automated Coin Toll System.
  - Past tense of "weave."
  - Dr. Watson's ... Bruce.
  - Marine recruit in basic training.
  - James ... founder of the ... Classical Library.
  - Home of the Etruscans and the Romans.
  - Comical novel by Jane Austen.
  - Arranging of parts in a complex entity.
  - For every.
  - Code of principles based on conscience.
  - Slim, pointed piece of metal hammered into material as a fastener.
  - Regrettable.
  - Michael ... author of Harry Potter parodies starring Barry Trotter.
  - Boeing-Vertol ... 61, runner-up of the Army competition in the '70s to replace the UH-1 Huey.
  - Relieved element formerly believed to fill the upper regions of space.
  - Small amounts of food.
  - Throw off light.
  - Woman who sings with bewitching sweetness.
  - Goddess of destruction and regeneration in the Hindu sacred triad.
  - Usually fermented juices of a plant product used as beverages.
  - Former capital of Nigeria.
  - Woman belonging to a religious order.
  - Fined by a deduction of wages.
  - Resentment strong enough to justify retaliation.
  - Smart elegance and sophistication.
  - Very early.
  - Lengthen.
  - Computer that registers bets and divides the total amount bet among those who won.
  - Actress ... Sorvino.
  - Shrubs with large clusters of fragrant purple or white flowers.
  - Easy, leaping way of moving.
  - Being strong and healthy.
  - Elderly son of Cain.
  - Abbreviation for Electronic Funds Transfer System.
  - Actress ... Hartman Black.
  - Used to introduce a phrase with greater force or clearness.
  - Reddish, brittle coating formed on iron.
- Down
- Nocturnal birds of prey.
  - Hypothetical case that law students argue as an exercise.
  - At all times.
  - Numerous clouds of gas in interstellar space.
  - Acronym for Small Integrated Transmitter Unit.
  - Actor John ...
  - Abbreviation for delicatessen.
  - Author Shana ...
  - Bringing to an end.
  - Usually large, scholarly book.
  - Person preeminent in a particular field.
  - Scatterbrained people.
  - Singer Shelby ...
  - Actor Nicholas ...
  - Style of apparel.
  - Wading birds related to herons.
  - Swollen.
  - Large, thick-skinned perissodactyl mammals of Africa having one or two upright horns on the snout.
  - Young person between infancy and youth.
  - Drummer ... Bissonette.
  - Theatrical production consisting of brief loosely connected skits, songs and dances.
  - Various cone-bearing evergreen trees with reddish-brown, flaky bark and narrow, flattened, dark-green leaves.
  - Fixed point in time from which a series of years is reckoned.
  - Member of a nomadic, short-statured people of southern Africa.
  - Abbreviation for technician.
  - English breed of terrier.
  - Jeering remark.
  - Triangle, a concept favored in the political literature of the early 1980s Soviet bloc.
  - Acronym for European Collaborative Open Learning Environment.
  - Person who buys and sells articles without revealing their condition.
  - German painter and printmaker ... Nolde.
  - Japanese for "mist."
  - Itsy-bitsy.
  - Native plant of warm countries used in medicine.
  - Des ... city in North Dakota.
  - Soft vegetable cheese prepared by treating soybean milk with coagulants.
  - Decides in favor of something.
  - Peace of mind.
  - Mother of ancient Irish gods.

## RECIPE OF THE WEEK

### Holiday Sugar Plums

- 1 cup butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar\*
- 1 1/2 tsp vanilla
- 2 1/4 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup quick rolled oats (optional)

- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/2 cup finely chopped pecans
- 48 maraschino cherries (about one 16-oz. jar)
- \*confectioners' sugar for finishing

Drain maraschino cherries thoroughly on paper towels and set aside. Put butter and 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar in a large mixing bowl. Beat with an electric mixer on medium speed three to four minutes, or until well mixed. Stir in vanilla. Add flour, oats and salt; mix well. Stir in pecans. Shape about 2 teaspoons dough around each cherry. Place on an ungreased cookie sheet about one inch apart. Bake in a preheated 350°F. oven for 12 to 15 minutes, or until set but not brown. Roll in confectioners' sugar while still warm. Cool. For a fun presentation, use cherries with stems. Remove stems, bake as directed and then insert stems in cookies while they are still warm but after rolling in sugar.

Makes 4 Dozen

## ANSWERS IN THE CLASSIFIEDS

## ADOPT A PET



### Perry

Perry is a very quiet and easy going cat. He is about 4 years old and loves everyone. This sweet boy is neutered, Leukemia tested negative and fully vaccinated. He would love to go home for Christmas.

### Herbie

Herbie is a handsome and sweet older Walker Hound. He does well with other dogs and has a fantastic personality. This guy is a big favorite with shelter staff and volunteers.



The AuSable Valley Animal Shelter is a participating member of the Very Best Pet Network.

**AuSable Valley Animal Shelter is located at:**

**5786 Fairground Lane, Grayling**

Use the entrance to the Crawford County Fairgrounds

Hours: Open 10 to 3 pm Monday thru Saturday, 10 to 12 pm on Sundays and Holidays

After hour appointments available. Call (989) 348-4117

For more pets or more information, visit our website [www.assc.petfinder.com](http://www.assc.petfinder.com)

## WEATHER

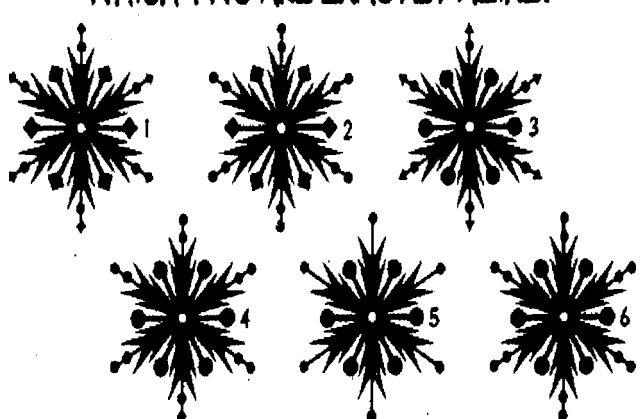
Courtesy of the City of Grayling

### Extended Forecast (Courtesy of the Weather.com)

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
<b>High</b> 27	<b>High</b> 30	<b>High</b> 26	<b>High</b> 30	<b>High</b> 27	<b>High</b> 27
<b>Low</b> 21	<b>Low</b> 20	<b>Low</b> 20	<b>Low</b> 20	<b>Low</b> 22	<b>Low</b> 10
Cloudy	Few Snow Showers	Snow Showers	Rain & Snow Mix	Partly Cloudy	Cloudy

## WIDIA FIND THE TWINS

WHICH TWO ARE EXACTLY ALIKE?



## SEEK AND FIND

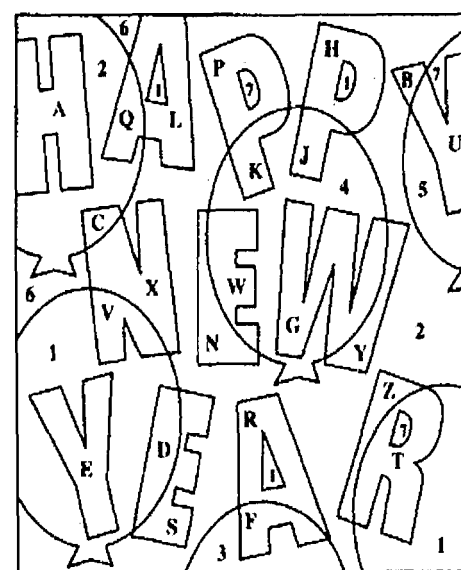
FIND THESE WORDS IN THE PUZZLE BELOW.

- |            |          |           |
|------------|----------|-----------|
| CAPPUCCINO | COLA     | ROOT BEER |
| CIDER      | JUICE    | TEA       |
| COCOA      | LEMONADE | WATER     |
| COFFEE     | MILK     | WINE      |

THE WORDS READ UP, DOWN AND ACROSS.

S D V B O I P L K M  
B Z A R E R T R W L  
N T O T W A T E R E  
O E L W J Y U D O M  
C A P P U C C I N O  
O D E M I L K C R N  
F S W E C O C O A A  
F W I N E I H L W D  
E S X I O P M A R E  
E R O O T B E E R W

## HIDDEN PICTURE



Color in each space that contains a letter.

# HOROSCOPES

For the week of December 27, 2007



**December 22-  
January 19**

Relax, Capricorn. Relationships will come full circle with the celebration of miracles big and small. An auto problem is uncovered but fixed with relative ease.



**March 21-  
April 19**

Favors of long ago are finally repaid in a most unusual way. Don't say a word. Aries. Just be grateful. A turn of events at home makes a celebration merry.



**June 22-  
July 22**

Ugh, Cancer. A friend bails on you again. Before you say or do something you'll regret, find out for certain that they did so intentionally. There may be something else at fault.



**September 23-  
October 22**

Geo, Libra. There is so much more to your skill set than meets the eye. Someone in authority will soon realize that and depend upon you more and more.



**January 20-  
February 18**

The richest of life's blessings come to you this week, Aquarius, and you adopt a new viewpoint. A slip of the tongue stirs up quite the controversy at work.



**April 20-  
May 20**

Leave nothing to chance, Taurus. Go over your to-do list again and again, and make sure you have covered everything. A financial task is completed.



**July 23-  
August 22**

Take no prisoners, Leo. Guests are coming, and you will need the help of everyone at home this week to prepare. A shopping trip proves worthwhile.



**October 23-  
November 21**

The work of an old friend is acknowledged. Congratulate them on their success. Scorpio, and look to them for inspiration to complete your own masterpiece.



**February 19-  
March 20**

Hooray, Pisces! You see a project through, and praise is heaped on you. Enjoy the moment. A long-awaited gift finally arrives but with a puzzling message.



**May 21-  
June 21**

Oh no, Gemini! Party plans hit a sour note. Don't worry. Help will come from an unusual source. A memo reveals a real need in the community.



**August 23-  
September 22**

Traditions of old are practiced once again. Share your delight with those near and dear to your heart, Virgo. A cooking incident is not the setback it appears to be.



**November 22-  
December 21**

Rest assured, Sagittarius. That relative you're counting on for a solution to your dilemma will come through. A celebration at work ends with a flourish.



# ADVERTISING CLASSIFIED

Crawford County Avalanche

**Classifieds must be paid for in advance:**  
**Display Advertising Rate** - \$8.00 per column inch  
**Deadline for Display Classifieds** - 12 noon, Monday  
**Classifieds by the word rate** - \$6.00 for 15 words or less, 10¢ per each additional word; includes Internet listing:  
[www.crawfordcountyavalanche.com](http://www.crawfordcountyavalanche.com)  
**Classified by the word deadline** - 12 noon, Tuesday

**1. Real Estate**  
**2-3 BEDROOM** 2 bath, year round ranch in peaceful setting, on maintained road, near lakes and snowmobiling. (586) 446-0004, (586) 713-7500. (6/22/06t/1)

**1. Real Estate**  
**FIVE ACRES** both sides river, both sides road. Three bedroom 2 bath ranch. Two possible bedroom plus family room, storage in walk-out basement. Pole building across road 989-348-8524. (11/08/2007t/1)

**1. Real Estate**  
**FOR SALE**, will consider land contract or rent with option, 5256 Old 27 N. Frederic. Newly renovated inside and out. 3 Br, \$99,000. 348-4252 days or 348-5256 after 5 pm and weekends. (-20-27/1)

**1. Real Estate**  
**NEWLY BUILT 2X6** construction, 2 br. 2 bath, 5 miles east with public and private river access, \$120,000, 989-348-4840. (LR12/27/07/1)

**2 BR CABIN**, half log, knotty pine interior. Private and public river access, \$85,000, 989-348-4840. (LR12/27/07/1)

**2. For Rent**  
**MOBILE HOMES 4 RENT** \$425 and up, some pet restrictions. Also, trailers for sale. 348-5278. (9/28/06t/2)

**2. For Rent**  
**SENIOR APARTMENTS AVAILABLE** at The Brook Retirement Communities. Offering Independent and Assisted Living. Lots of amenities, activities, beautiful surroundings and affordable living. Communities located in: Houghton Lake (989) 422-7200 Roscommon (989) 275-4000, West Branch (989) 343-1400, Gladwin (989) 426-8700. Call or stop by today for a personalized tour. (5/10/2007t/2)

**1-2-3 BEDROOM DUPLEXES** for rent starting at \$450 plus security. 989-348-5230. (-6-13-20-27/2)

**Happy New Year**  
 Call  
**Pete Kocenas**  
**Century 21**  
 RIVER COUNTRY REAL ESTATE  
 989-344-1800  
 Grayling

**RE/MAX**  
**of Grayling**  
 5728 M-72 West  
 EACH OFFICE INDEPENDENTLY OWNED & OPERATED

**CRAIG HINKLE**  
 Broker/Owner  
 State Licensed Appraiser

**CHARLENE SCHEER**  
 Broker / Owner  
 Limited Real Estate Appraiser  
 CRB, GRI, CRS, ABR

We know there's a lot riding on your next home

**REDUCED**  
**NICELY WOODED CORNER LOT IN THE VILLAGE OF MIO.** 856 s.f., two bedroom and one bath home. Featuring brick fireplace, natural gas heat, and workshop/utility room off back of 16x30 garage. Ask about Express Path Financing! CH-2631 \$37,000

**REDUCED**  
**SPACIOUS FOUR BEDROOM HOME LOCATED ON M-33 IN MIO.** Location is great for home or business. 1,540 s.f., partial basement, large garage, three season porch, and larger upstairs bedroom. CH-2611 \$37,500

**REDUCED**  
**LARGE COUNTRY HOME ON 5 ACRES.** 1,300+ S.F., 3 bedrooms, and 1.5 baths. 24x26 attached garage, 8 x14 covered porch, and 1 1/2 story horse barn. Perfect opportunity for horse lovers. CH-2626 \$59,900

**REDUCED**  
**7.4 ACRES OF BEAUTIFUL HARDWOODS CLOSE TO SKYLINE.** 1,357 s.f., three bedrooms, and 1 1/2 baths. Home features custom kitchen with quality cabinetry, heated sun-room, ceramic tile kitchen and dining room, and master bedroom with walkout onto rear 12x12 deck. 30x24 garage, 10x33 work shop, sprinkling system, drywell hookup for camper, and 14x40 concrete approach. Ask about Express Path Financing. CH-2636 \$91,900

**ACREAGE**  
**12.38 ACRES OF BEAUTIFUL ROLLING HARDWOODS.** Tree cover has a mixture of beautiful hardwoods standing in a rolling terrain. There is electricity at the road. Close to state land and snowmobile trails. CS-2424 \$29,900

**10 ACRES**  
**RECREATIONAL ENTHUSIAST** 3 to 4 bedrooms with 2 baths. Knotty Pine tongue and groove. Security system. Detached 26 x 30 finished heated garage with 3 garage doors for easy in and out for snowmobiles. Home is furnished. Snowmobile out your door to state land and Blue Bear Trails. Secluded setting on 10 +/- acres adjoining State Land to the East. CS-2458 \$159,000

**SOLD**  
**ATTRACTIVE HOME ON 10 ACRES ADJOINS STATE LAND** 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, offering 1,700 sq. ft. New maple kitchen cabinets. Stone fireplace with gas insert. Security alarm system. paved driveway. 30x40 pole barn w/loft. Snowmobile out your back door to trails. Move in condition. CS-2627 \$134,900

**BEAUTIFUL WOODED SETTING WITH LONG PRIVATE DRIVE** 15 acres with several trails and thousands of planted blue spruce, red pine, and white pines. 1,200 s.f. home with two bedrooms, and one bath. Family room with knotty pine vaulted ceiling and walls. Bay window and gas fireplace in living room. 24 x 24 heated drive through garage, 30 x 40 garage with 12' sidewalls, and 24 x 36 heated garage with 12 x 36 lean to. CH-2623 \$149,900

**Century 21 RIVER COUNTRY**  
 Servicing Every Size and Every Budget!

**NEW LISTING**  
 2,080 sq. ft. of well maintained living space offers 4 bedrooms, 2 full baths, living room w/ vaulted ceilings, family room, 2 car garage, paved drive, & extensive decking! All the amenities of Cuthrie Lakes: club house, pool, sauna, lake access, boat & bike rental. \$108,800 #5936

**Beautiful Setting!** Nice 3 bedroom, 2 full bath home on a rolling 10 square acres, adjoining state land. Great spot to have a few horses. Or if 10 acres is a little to much, also offering 3.2 acres of property with the home for only \$89,000. A must see. \$114,900 #5859

**Large country home close to town.** Formal dining room with hardwood floors and large country kitchen make this 4 bedroom, 3 bath home perfect for the larger family. Partial finished basement. Recently reduced. \$238,000 #5863

**Sparkling interior in this roomy 3 bedroom home.** Family room addition, bright kitchen w/snack bar, extra insulation throughout, huge deck, carpet, 24x32 heated pole barn, just minutes to Higgins Lake, Lake Margrethe, Fox Run, & More! STATE LAND across street. \$95,000.00 #5891

**Three bedroom, two bath, 2.5 car garage.** Manistee River Woods subdivision; backs up to open space & you share Manistee River frontage! Home shows brand new-wood floors in kitchen, dining & front entrance. \$105,900 #5908

**2 bedroom, 2 bath home, only lived in 3 months,** 1188 square feet, vaulted ceilings, fireplace, 2 car attached garage in nice small subdivision, 2 miles from Higgins Lake. \$84,000 #5826

**Squeaky clean 2 bedroom, mobile home** on a nice wooded parcel. Air conditioner, bay window, large deck, 18x22 car port, 2 sheds, range, microwave, washer and dryer. RV hookup, too. \$34,900 #5860

**Cute 3 bedroom 1 bath home/cottage on 2 acres.** Features 2 additional out buildings, fire pit and attached garage. Property located just 6 miles from town and 1/2 mile from Ausable River. \$66,900 #5910

**Fantastic commercial building!** Remodeled in 2005 to accommodate pizza parlor; everything is sparkling! 1560 SF with seats and tables, walk-in cooler, two built in counters, 2 bathrooms and a 12-ton A/C. \$150,000 #5896

**Lake Margrethe shared beach, parks, assigned boat slip, quiet natural setting plus a 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home on 1/2 acre.** Tons of storage, grand foyer and 2 story living room. #5884 \$244,900

• 5688 M-72 West • Grayling, MI 49738 • 989-348-5474 • [www.century21grayling.com](http://www.century21grayling.com)

(989) 348-7440 You're #1 with us 800-731-4002  
 See us on the internet [www.remax-grayling-mi.com](http://www.remax-grayling-mi.com)  
 Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Sat. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. • Sun. By Appt. Only

**1. Real Estate** **2. For Rent** **2. For Rent**

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
**Cornell Realty Grayling**  
 6248 M-72 West  
 800-300-6653  
 989-348-6481  
 Visit our listings at [www.coldwellbanker.com](http://www.coldwellbanker.com)

**New Listing**  
 2200 sq. ft. home with 4 large bedrooms in the Village of Roscommon located across from the park. This home has a basement, fenced back yard, and is sold in As is condition. #253193 \$66,900

**New Listing**  
 Good value for the price. Large garage for storage. Possibility for a 3rd bedroom. Must see to appreciate the value. #254469 \$69,500

**Reduced**  
 Very cozy 3 bedroom, 1 bath home, includes, stove, refrigerator, washer/dryer. Move in the day of closing! #252600 \$72,500

**Reduced**  
 Bring your clothes and toothbrush and move right in to this totally refurbished quiet little home with room to spare. New kitchen, flooring, carpet, appliances, windows, roof, well garage and electrical. Wood stove, sun room, gazebo & small bubbling pool. 6 beds & 7 1/2 of space for the kids. Large corner lot, ponds, walk across the street to the lake. #241151 \$149,000

**Residential**  
 Custom Pool Home has been totally remodeled. New Kitchen w/custom cabinets, stainless appliances, granite tile counter, Knotty pine & hardwood flooring in LR. Up north fixtures throughout, stamped concrete flooring in down stairs living area, FP in family room, refinished indoor pool, 30 x 40 pool room, New roof, and more. #251816 \$149,900

**Residential**  
 This never built HUD Sectional offers space, convenience, lots of room, large master suite, deck off the breakfast nook in kitchen, and a formal dining room. Many more amenities to be found. The basement is a poured cement foundation. State land is also to the South. #252754 \$160,000

**New Listing**  
 Great chalet on secluded 10 acres, peaceful setting surrounded with wildlife, home offers additional 12X16 guest cabin and 28X32 insulated drive thru garage & upstairs storage, all appliances & home warranty included. #252462 \$172,000

**New Listing**  
 Large family home offers: Updated kitchen with tumbled tile back splash, new wood laminate flooring, tile in master bath, finished basement, new roof in 2004, 30 year shingle, extra insulation, high efficient furnace, Anderson Windows, central air all this on 10 acres. Additional 26x38 Garage for storing all your toys. #254185 \$189,900

**PRIMAVERA PREMIER OF HILLTOP**

**Agents:**  
 Bonnie S. Odell, Clark LaMonte, Dennis S. Murphy, Brenda Ross, Denny LaMonte, Frank S. Odell, Gail S. Odell, Dennis S. Murphy, Larry S. Odell, Larry S. Odell

**Emery Pines Community**  
 Is offering a \$1000.00 of rent\*  
**For your new home in the New Year**  
 We are now accepting applications for our new Emery Pines Community Homes

The new community offers 3 bedroom, two full baths, walk-in closet, dishwasher, central a/c, washer & dryer, window treatments, frost free refrigerator, playground area, 1100 square feet of living area, barrier free unit available and a beautiful country setting.

Emery Pines Community is located in Houghton Lake

Rents starts at \$535.00 per month  
 To receive an application or schedule an appointment, please call 1-800-399-1911  
 \*For qualified applicants  
 Equal Housing Opportunity



### 1. Real Estate

**THIS AUSABLE RIVER HOME** has over 175 feet of river frontage, and is only 25 feet from the river. You can fly fish from the 750 square foot wrap-around deck. Enjoy this 2,175 square foot brick 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom home located on the East Branch, 1 mile north of Mercy Hospital. Featuring a full sized kitchen, living room, finished walkout basement, fireplace, hot tub, large cedar sauna and much more. The manicured lawn, hard to see at this time of year, is watered from an underground sprinkler system and looks like a well maintained golf course. Price has been reduced from \$239,500 down to \$214,500 - a \$25,000 savings. If you buy my house, I would be willing to lease it from you for 2 years. Let's talk. Call 989-348-2053 for showing by owner. (-13-20-27/1)

### 2. For Rent

**2 BEDROOM APARTMENT** for rent. Completely furnished, no pets. 989-348-8471. (-27-3-10/2)

### Grayling Pines Apartments

at 595 Meadows Drive in Grayling is currently accepting applications for beautiful 2 bedroom apartments. Rent starts at only \$605.00 a month. These apartments offer a patio, walk-in closets, air conditioning, garbage disposal, window treatments, neutral décor, and spacious living areas, also a very nice playground area. Free heat and free hot water. For a personal showing please call Peggy at (989) 344-0020.  
Equal Housing Opportunity TDD  
1-800-649-3777

### 2. For Rent

**OFFICE SPACE** 570 sq. ft. for lease in the Industrial Park. 989-348-6450. (9/27/07tf/2)

**WAREHOUSE SPACE** 1,200 sq. ft. for lease in the Industrial Park. 989-348-6460. (9/27/07tf/2)

**FOR RENT 2 BR** home on the Manistee River. Freshly remodeled, beautiful views, garage, partial basement, storage building. No smoking. Available November 14th. \$650/month + \$650 security deposit. Contact Craig Hinkle for application at 989-348-7440. (12/27/07tf/2)

**TWO BEDROOM DUPLEX** appliances, heat, garage \$650 a month 989-390-0027. (10/18/07tf/2)

**FOR RENT** 1,400 sq. ft., 3 B/R, 2 bath with 150' frontage on the Manistee River. Includes 2 car garage, gas fireplace and is adjacent to state land. \$650/month + security + utilities. No smoking. Please call Craig Hinkle for application 989-348-7440. (10/25/07tf/2)

**THREE BEDROOM** ranch home, remodeled, like new. Natural gas, nice neighborhood, 1 1/2 bath, garage, nonsmoking. Lawncare for seniors \$695. 1056 Little John Ave. 989-348-2178. (12/13/07tf/2)

**TWO-BEDROOM DUPLEX** totally remodeled, floors, cabinets, drywall, appliances, etc. Storage, lawncare, snowplowing, adult non-smoking \$495 810 Park. 348-2178. (12/13/07tf/2)

**HOUSE FOR RENT**, 3 bedroom, 2 full baths on 3 acres. Call 810-225-0395. (-20-27/2)

**FOR RENT:** 1 bedroom apt. in town, \$475 a month plus security deposit, includes heat and water. Phone 989-619-9689. (-20-27/2)

### 2. For Rent

**VIKING VILLAGE APARTMENTS** are now taking applications for current availability. Very nice two bedroom, two bath apartments approximately one mile west of Grayling off M-72. Units in this quiet community include central air conditioning, attached garage, paved lighted streets and driveways, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher, washer and dryer. Lawn care, snow removal, and garbage pickup included in annual lease. Contact Herb Olson, at 989 348-9456, for more information. (11/29/07tf/2)

**HOUSE FOR RENT** (Grayling). Nice 2 bedroom 1 bath, big kitchen, dining room, living room, laundry and utility room, call 989-448-4200. (-20-27/2)

**MOBILE HOME** 2 bedroom \$395, new paint, carpet, windows, plus utilities. One room cabin #1 \$275, includes utilities. Wooded, no pets, 11006 mobile home/11010 N. Old US 27 cabins. Lost Acres. 877-227-6976. (11/1/07tf/2)

**FOR LEASE** will consider land contract or rent with option, 5256 Old 27 N. Frederic. Newly renovated inside and out. 3 Br, lease at \$695 month. 348-4252 days or 348-5256 after 5 PM and weekends. (-20-27/2)

### 3. Employment

**TWO SALES POSITIONS AVAILABLE**, 1 entry level CHEM DRY, cleaning tech hourly plus bonus, 1 for in home replacement windows, citing & insulation, base plus commission. Please fax resume to Anderson Installation Services at 231-946-3137 or call 231-946-2206 for more information. (-27-3/3)

### 3. Employment

**DRIVER TRAINEES** needed now. Drivers being hired and CDL trained for Werner Enterprises. \$800/week no experience needed 800-882-7364. (LR12/27/2007/3)

**ARE YOU AN RN** who feels ready to try a new career path? The Brook Retirement Community of Roscommon has a full time M-F, days position available. Flex hrs., low stress, able to make a difference in the lives and health of our residents. Competitive pay and benefits. Looking for an energetic, organized person to oversee the clinical functions of the assisted living residents, plan/carry out activities, clinical training of staff, public relations. Would also consider an LPN with the right background. Exp. in long term care/geriatrics essential. Send resume to D. Friedrichsen, The Brook, 195 State Street, Roscommon, MI 48653 by January 4th. (-20-27-3/3)

**NORTHERN LAKES CMH** is seeking applicants for the following positions: Infant Mental Health Specialist - Grayling; ACT Team RN - Grayling; Home Based Therapist - Cadillac, Grayling or Houghton Lake; Wraparound Facilitator - Grayling or Houghton Lake; MI Case Manager - Grayling or Houghton Lake; DD Case Manager - Houghton Lake; Home Based Therapist - Houghton Lake. For further position information, requirements for each position and how to apply, please visit our web page: [www.northernlakescmh.org](http://www.northernlakescmh.org). (-20-27/3)

**AUTO DETAILER WANTED**, experienced, excellent pay program plus benefits. Apply in person, Don Nester Chevrolet, Roscommon. 989-275-5105. (-20-27/3)

### 3. Employment

**HOME BASED FAMILY THERAPIST:** Houghton Lake: Provide therapeutic services to children and adolescents and their families as needed. Services provided include conducting assessments, making diagnoses, development of treatment plans, providing individual and family therapy, monitoring of progress, and documentation of services. Additionally, this position will be involved in collaboration and consultation with other community human service agencies and schools. Home Based services is an intensive service program that typically takes place in the family home or in other community-based locations. Must strongly believe in recovery and have a commitment to creating and maintaining a culture that expects recovery. Masters degree in social work, psychology, or nursing required. Michigan license to practice as a fully licensed professional (Master level or greater) preferred; limited license considered. NLCMH offers excellent benefits and competitive wages. Send resume to: Human Resources, Northern Lakes CMH, 105 Hall St., Ste. A, Traverse City, MI 49684 EOE [www.northernlakescmh.org](http://www.northernlakescmh.org). (-20-27/3)

**LEELIN HOME HEALTH CARE, Inc.** is looking for Home Health Aides and CNAs in Grayling and the surrounding areas to perform all manner of home care services for clients in their own home. Personal Care experience helpful but not required. Driver's license and automobile insurance is required. To schedule an interview, please call our corporate office Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. at 800-274-0100. EOE. (-27-3/3)

### 4. Services Offered

**SEWING, ZIPPERS, QUILTER** Military welcome, open 6 days a week. (989)348-9349. (1/11/07tf/4)

### 4. Services Offered

**SNOWPLOWING AND OAK SEASON** 16" 18" delivered, \$50 cord Grayling area, other area \$70, roof top ice & snow removal, 30 years experience. Jerry 989-348-7046. (-27-3-10/4)

**RTH HOME IMPROVEMENT** all your interior and exterior needs. Garages, additions, drywall, painting, roofing, siding, decks, and more. Licensed and insured, free estimates. Rob Harrington 989-344-1383. (-9/16/04tf/4)

**I CHARGE** by the job not the hour. Snow shoveling sidewalks, driveways, decks and porches and shoveling snow off of roofs of houses, garages, trailers and sheds. 348-5081. (-20-27/4)

**D. HAWES/DRIVERS TRAINING** Northern Driving School. Segment I, \$260. Segment II, \$40.00. Classes offered in Grayling - January, March, May, June, July; Roscommon - December, March, April, June. The only local driver's education company in Crawford and Roscommon Counties. (989) 344-2470. (11/22/07tf/4)

**CHILD CARE** in my home, will take part to full time, 390-4168. (11/29/07tf/4)

**RIDING LESSONS** special Christmas packages! Horse boarding available. 989-348-9233. (12/13/07tf/4)

### 4. Services Offered

**Snow Plowing**  
M-72 West, M-93,  
Lake Margrothe area.  
Reasonable Rates,  
No Contracts.  
Call 989-348-7746 or  
989-398-5998

# Sell it in the Classifieds! They get results!!

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Minimum charge, \$6.00 for the first 15 words, 10¢ for each additional word. Please use as many words as you like, one word per box. Includes listing on the Avalanche internet page.

Crawford County Avalanche

989-348-6811 • [www.crawfordcountyavalanche.com](http://www.crawfordcountyavalanche.com)

### Categories (Circle One)

- |                  |                     |                  |                  |
|------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 1. Real Estate   | 3. Employment       | 6. Wanted        | 9. Personals     |
| 2. For Rent      | 4. Services Offered | 7. Miscellaneous | 10. Garage Sales |
| 2a. Want To Rent | 5. For Sale         | 8. Announcements | 11. Automotive   |

\$6.00	\$6.10	\$6.20	\$6.30	\$6.40	\$6.50	\$6.60
\$6.70	\$6.80	\$6.90	\$7.00	\$7.10	\$7.20	\$7.30
\$7.40	\$7.50	\$7.60	\$7.70	\$7.80	\$7.90	\$8.00
\$8.10	\$8.20	\$8.30	\$8.40	\$8.50	\$8.60	\$8.70
\$8.80	\$8.90	\$9.00	\$9.10	\$9.20	\$9.30	\$9.40
\$9.50	\$9.60	\$9.70	\$9.80	\$9.90	\$10.00	\$10.10

CLASSIFIEDS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE BY TUESDAY NOON



### 5. For Sale

**FOR SALE:** Lear fiberglass pickup topper, fits 1999-2006 GM Crew Cabs. \$800 obo. 989-348-8611. (-27-3/5)

**RUGER M-77** Mark II 3x9x40 scope, sling \$600. Tikka T3 Big Bore 300 WSM 3x9x40 scope, case, sling and shells \$770. Call 348-8851. (-27-3/5)

**CABIN LOGS** rough sawn lumber, kiln dried lumber, tongue & groove, log siding, custom sawing. T. Warren Sawmill. 989-619-0840. (LR12/27/07/5)

**WAKELEY'S FIREWOOD SEASONED OAK** \$60 a cord, cut, split and delivered, minimum 2 cord 989-275-4574. (-20-27-3/5)

**MOM'S & DAD'S** grandma's & grandpa's do you have a pony lover in your family? I have one large 11 y.o gelding pony suitable for a lady and one small 13 y.o. mare pony. Lease w/board & lessons- or buy outright. What a great Christmas surprise! Aussi Puppies- not ready to go until after the 1st but can pick one out by Christmas. 989-348-9233. (12/13/07/5)

**MONARCH HYDRAULIC POWER UNIT-** 12 volt motor driven, have main book. Can be used log splitter or snow plow lift. Two angle hydraulic side cylinder right & left \$250, 348-8783. (-20-27/5)

**11 HORSE CRAFTSMAN SNOWBLOWER,** 32 inch, \$1,200 new asking \$650, 344-2296. (-27/5)

### 6. Wanted

**WANTED-SCRAP VEHICLES** top dollar paid. Pick up available. 888-471-3818. (3/3/05/6)

**WANTED TO BUY** Rittenhouse cottage furniture. 248-851-7585. (03/2/06/6)

**BUYING JUNK VEHICLES** Price varies with size but will pay the most. Call Don at 231-587-0856 or 888-468-7313. (10/11/07/6)

**WARREN FOREST PRODUCTS** We buy standing timber and sell firewood by the loggers cord. Call 989-348-7133 during the day and leave a message. Evenings call 231-229-4845, ask for Chan. (LR12/27/07/6)

### 7. Miscellaneous

#### Signs & Banners of All Kinds

Business, Truck, Trailer, Jobsites, Magnetics  
Pete Kocenas  
989-348-8627  
1-800-848-1268  
www.SledheadsUSA.com

#### Crossword Answers

OMEN	SAD	ACTS
WOVE	NIGEL	BOOT
LOEB	ITALY	EMMA
STRUCTURING	PER	
LAW	NAIL	
TRAGIC	GERBER	
YUHQ	ETHRR	BITES
EMIT	SIREN	SIVA
WINE'S	LAGOS	NUN
DOCKED	GRUDGE	
CHIC	WEE	
EKE	TOTALIZATOR	
MIRA	LILAC	LOPE
IRON	ENOCH	EFTS
LISA	YES	RUST

### 6. Wanted

**WOW GABBY'S** is now paying \$250 for your junk vehicle delivered to us, \$200 if we pick up. Requirements complete with title 231-258-5726 or 877-SCRAP-30. (-20-27-3/6)

### 8. Announcements

**MIP** and anger management programs. GRACE Center, Grayling. 989-348-2544. (10/11/07/8)

**SHAPE UP WITH CHAR,** free January classes, call for details 348-6542. (LR1/31/08/8)

**SPORTSMAN/ANTIQUE AUCTION!** Dec. 29, 10 a.m., Perry Creek & M-33, Mio. Quality sportsman & antique items. View photos online. Lets Talk Auction! 989-848-5158, www.LetsTalkAuction.com. (-27/8)

**MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE** from Krystal Stars. Our gift to you is January children's classes free. Call for details, 348-6542. (-27/8)

### 11. Automotive

**CAR DETAILING** Let JJ's Motor Mall make your vehicle sparkle inside & out! 348-7710. (5/31/07/11)

**AUTO GLASS** repair and replacement now available at JJ's Auto Glass. 348-7710. (9/29/05/11)

**2 ACR** car racing seats for \$300. 989-348-2495. (11/1/07/11)

**1995 CHEVY 1/2 ton 4 x 4** truck ext. cab. Tan with tan interior, power door locks, brakes, windows, cruise, air and lear cap with bed liner. 126,000 miles, good condition. Blue book \$5,360, my price \$3,995 must sell, call 989-348-4337. (-27-3/11)

### 11. Automotive

**FOR SALE:** 1965 Mustang. Needs some work \$3,500. Serious inquiries only. 989-348-2495. (9/20/07/11)

**2005 TRAIL BLAZER 4 x 4 LT,** silver with charcoal leather interior, sunroof, all power options plus XM satellite radio and On-Star. 65,000 highway miles, super clean. Dealer price \$18,500 my price \$16,500, must sell, call 989-348-3570. (-27-3/11)

### 5. For Sale

### 11. Automotive

**2003 CHEVY S-10,** navy blue, 4-cylinder ext cab pickup, lots of extras. 70,000 miles, only \$6,000. 348-8187. (-20-27/11)

**CAN'T FIT THE CAR IN THE GARAGE?** Sell those extra goodies quick with an ad in Avalanche For Sale Classifieds. (989) 348-6811

### 5. For Sale

## Buy Locally and keep Grayling alive and thriving.

Scheer Motors is your local dealer and has been for over 40 years.



Stop by Scheer Motors today and see Cliff Wheeler, third generation local!

Scheer Motors, your local dealer!



**Scheer Motors**  
**989-348-5451**  
Chevrolet, Buick, Pontiac, Cadillac,  
Dodge, Dodge Truck, Jeep, Chrysler -  
Used Cars & Trucks

### 9. Personals

## In Loving Memory of Margaret M. Dugas

2/14/28 - 7/31/07

Dear Mom,

The sting of your loss is still fresh in our hearts. Especially as we face this our most difficult season apart. And while others toast and share Holiday cheer, We will be drinking our still-flowing tears. Please know that as the clock rings in the New Year, Our thoughts will turn to you,

Mom, forever dear

But all is not sadness. For as the seasons continue to change, Our tears will take their leave. And the part of us that is you will remain. We will hold close your kindness, your laughter, and your caring way. With the comfort of knowing we'll be reunited one day.

## EARLY DEADLINES FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Our office will close on  
**Monday, December 31 at noon.**  
Deadlines for the  
**January 3, 2008**  
Avalanche will be:

Display Ads: Thurs. Dec. 27 at 10 am  
Community News: Thurs. Dec. 27 at 5 pm  
Classified Display Ads: Thurs. Dec. 27 at 5 pm  
Classified Ads by the word: Fri. Dec. 28 at noon

The Avalanche office will reopen on  
**Wednesday, January 2 at 9 am.**

### 11. Automotive

### 11. Automotive





Customers: Tom & Lucia Berg  
Salesperson: Scott Hartman

**Why I bought from Scheer Motors...**  
"We like to keep our business in town and like the salesman and service." - Tom & Lucia

**Special of the Week**

**2008 Pontiac G6**  
**\$165<sup>00</sup> per month**  
A/C, Remote Start, Loaded  
stock# 22418

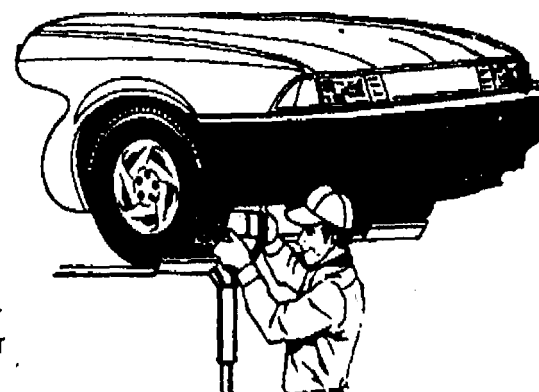
Lease payment based on 39 month, 10,000 miles per year, plus tax and fees, rebate to dealer, reg GMAC approval, \$1,995 due at signing

**"Your Hometown Dealer"**

**Hours - Mon. : 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
**Tue. - Fri 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. • Sat. 9-2 • U.S. 27 NORTH • Grayling**  
**www.scheermotors.com**  
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## OIL CHANGE IN 29 MINUTES

- Oil change (up to five quarts of oil)
- Oil filter
- Chassis lube
- Fluid level checks
- Brakes - differential
- transfer case - transmission
- windshield washer
- 25-point inspection



No Appointment Necessary  
Diesels Extra

AS LOW AS  
**\$26.95**



**Goodwrench**

US-27 North, Grayling • 989-348-5451

Hours: Mon 7:30 am - 8:00 pm  
Tues - Fri 7:30 am - 5:30 pm

### Mich-Can Statewide Classified

**Business Opportunities**  
ALL CASH CANDY ROUTE. Do you earn up to \$800/day? Your own local candy route. Includes 30 machines and Candy. All for \$9,995. Call 1-888-744-4651.

**ATTN: DRIVERS PAID ORIENTATION** and bonus 36-43 cpm (\$1000+wkly). Excellent benefits. Class A and 3 mos OTR required. 800-635-8669.

**DRIVE THE BIG RIGS!** Truck driver training. Pre-hire program. Tuition reimbursement. No employment contracts. Big Bucks driving Big Trucks! Call HRCB today. 1-888-750-6200. www.DriveTheBigRigs.com

**DRIVER: DON'T JUST START** your career, start it right! Company sponsored CDL training in 3 weeks. Must be 21. Have CDL? Tuition reimbursement! CRST. 866-917-2778.

**POST OFFICE NOW HIRING!** Ave. pay \$20/hour or \$57K annually including federal benefits and OT. Paid training, vacations, PTO/FT. 1-866-615-7015 USWA. Exam/Fee Req.

**TEACHERS NEEDED IN NEW MEXICO!** Special Education. \$5K bonus for level 2 or 3 licensed teachers. Contact Karen Ligon: 505-782-5511. www.zpsd.org. ZPSD is an EOE.

**UP TO 100% PAID COLLEGE TUITION** Assistance for Michigan National Guard members. Plus you may qualify for a \$20,000 cash bonus. CALL or visit www.1-800-GU-GUARD.com.

**WOOD TRUCKING, INC./MCT.** Great New Career! Job Guaranteed on completion of Free 3 week CDL-A Training. 1 year commitment required. 1-

**Financial Services**  
800-621-4878

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**REACH 3.1 MILLION** Michigan readers with a 2 x 2 display ad for only \$999 - Contact this newspaper for details.

**CHANGING JOBS?** What to do with the funds in your 401(k)? Call for a free copy of "Keep the IRS out of Your IRA" (800) 741-3379

**AIRLINES ARE HIRING** - Train for high paying Aviation Maintenance Career. FAA approved program. Financial aid if qualified. - Job placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute Maintenance (888) 349-5387.

**ATTEND COLLEGE ONLINE** from home. Medical, business, paralegal, computers, criminal justice. Job placement assistance. Financial aid and computer provided if qualified. Call 866-858-2121. www.OnlineTideWaterTech.com

**PLACE YOUR STATEWIDE AD HERE!** \$299 buys a 25-word classified ad offering over 1.6 million circulation and 3.6 million readers. Contact this newspaper for details.



## Don't Be Left Out! Subscribe Today!

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102 Michigan Ave. • Grayling • 989-348-6811

YOUR HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER

- Local News
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- Calendar of Events
- Obituaries

Local . . . . . \$20  
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Kalkaska & Oscoda Counties  
Seasonal Address Changes Add \$4  
Non-Local . . . . . \$30  
Foreign . . . . . \$60  
\$2 Senior Citizen discount on all rates.  
Must be age 60 or older.

Check us out on the web:  
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